

## TOMORROW

Can the United States ever bring peace to the Middle East? As Israel and Lebanon sign the latest in the long line of American-backed peace plans for the region, Mr Philip Habib, Mr Reagan's special envoy, heads for Damascus. Edward Mortimer assesses the strengths and weaknesses of US diplomacy. Who are the key personal advisers around Labour leader Michael Foot as he sets out on the campaign trail? In the second part of Spectrum's special election series Nicholas Wapshott provides some surprising answers. Plus the first shots from John Partridge in his election column on behalf of the Alliance. Roger Scruton's defence of South Africa and Suzy Menkes on the return of fun to fashion.

## Collapse of walls risk to houses

Many homes in several parts of Britain are at risk because of corrosion in the ties that hold cavity walls together. In extreme cases there is a possibility of walls collapsing, and the necessary repairs can cost up to £20,000. **Page 3**

## Chile protests

More than 100 arrests have been made in Chile after last week's violence prompted by growing frustration over the free-enterprise policies introduced by President Pinochet since Allende's overthrow. **Page 6**

## Burial find

A couple with a metal detector have found a burial site on a farm on the South Downs which experts think could shed new light on the period after the Roman exodus. **Page 3**

## Stern sit-in

Stern journalists are continuing to occupy the magazine's Hamburg offices in protest at the appointment of two right-wing editors. **Page 5**

## Marbles spirit

Lord Elgin said he approved of the return of the Elgin Marbles to Greece if it was part of a worldwide attempt to recreate and recapture the spirit of Parthenon architecture. **Page 3**

## Brief car boom

British car sales, after a brief and unexpected boom, will begin to fall in the next few months, according to the DRI Europe research group. **Page 17**

## Cruise threats

Threats have been made by telephone against Tarmac, the company which is building silos for cruise missiles at Greenham Common air base. **Page 2**

## Stores battle

Linford, the supermarket group, said it would match a £40m increased offer from Safeway for the Key Markets chain. **Page 17**

## Merger move

Delegates at the public employees' union conference will be asked to take steps to encourage a merger with the health service union. **Page 2**

## Etna rethink

Scientists and technicians were considering the use of bulldozers in attempts to stop the lava flow from Mount Etna, after the partial failure of explosives. **Page 5**

## Monaco winner

Koke Roseberg, the Finnish champion, drove his British-built Cosworth Williams to victory in the Monaco Grand Prix. **Page 19**

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# Thatcher will fly by Concorde to Williamsburg

● The Prime Minister has decided to fly by Concorde to the Williamsburg summit on May 28, interrupting her campaign.

● Labour has selected Mr John Tilley to fight Bermondsey, the seat lost in February by Mr Peter Tatchell.

● "The curse of mass unemployment" will be the main feature of Labour's attack on the Tory record, Mr Foot said yesterday.

● Mrs Barbara Castle, the former Labour minister, asks whether the Iron Lady is losing her mettle (Page 10).

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Prime Minister has decided to interrupt her election campaign to attend the economic summit of the seven main Western economic powers at Williamsburg, Virginia, at the end of May. But she will fly by Concorde, leaving London two days later than was first planned, and returning about twelve hours earlier than planned.

An announcement confirming that she has resolved her doubts is expected soon.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has several times said publicly that she wanted to attend, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, have strongly advised it.

But the Conservative Party's campaign planners were nervous at the prospect of her being absent from the country for several days within two weeks of polling day. That and her natural caution have combined to delay a public statement.

At first Mrs Thatcher was to have paid a two-day official visit to Washington before going on to Williamsburg. Those arrangements were cancelled last week.

The travel plans now agreed between Conservative Central

Office and Downing Street entail an outward flight by Concorde to Washington on Saturday, May 28, and a return flight, also by Concorde, via New York on the evening of Monday, May 30.

That will mean the loss of only one day's campaigning, the Saturday, because the Conservatives by tradition hesitate to appear on the hustings on Sunday; the Monday, being a

round-trip ticket will cost rather more than £2,400.

Mr Michael Foot criticized Mrs Thatcher yesterday for indecision over attending the Williamsburg summit to which Labour attached much importance. The party wanted to see a big effort there to get the world back to full employment in international as well as national terms, he said.

He criticized her for saying, in an interview with *The Times* last week, that she did not expect to see "some new formula" agreed there to get the world out of recession.

Of the main parties, the Conservatives will be last in the field with their manifesto, which will be published on Wednesday. That has not inhibited their campaigning, however.

Central Office has no knowledge of any platform speeches by prominent Conservatives today; nevertheless, they are trooping to the broadcasting studios to open fire on the Labour manifesto as soon as it appears this morning.

Mrs Thatcher will be interviewed on ITN's *News at One* and *News at Ten*; Mr Cecil Parkinson will be on BBC radio's *World at One*.

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public holiday, is regarded by all the parties as likely to prove a wasted day.

Sir Geoffrey, Mr Pym, and officials will be travelling in the Royal Air Force VC10 which would have carried the Prime Minister, so the cost of Concorde tickets for her and her immediate staff will be borne by the Conservative Party. Each

## Tatchell 'successor' named

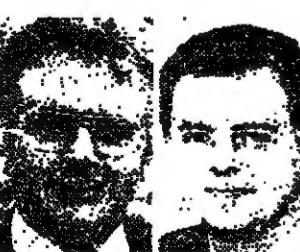
Mr John Tilley, whose present Lambeth Central seat disappears under boundary changes, was selected last night to fight the Southwark, Bermondsey seat for Labour. In Nottingham South, Mr Ken Coates, who was once expelled from the Labour Party for his views, was chosen.

A veteran left-wing campaigner, Mr Coates, returned from the European Disarmament Conference in Berlin to take part in the selection procedure for the new constituency.

A university lecturer, he had been active in the running of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation and the Institute for Workers' Control. In 1965, while president of Nottingham City Labour Party, he was expelled from party membership after attacking Labour Party policy on Vietnam. He was reinstated after five years.

Mr Coates faced five other candidates in the selection conference, including Mr Eric Moonman, the former Labour MP for Basildon. Mr Michael English, who was Labour MP for Nottingham West, which disappears under reorganization, decided not to contest the seat.

Mr Tilley, aged 41, and an MP since a by-election in April 1978, sought the Southwark, Bermondsey nomination after the decision by Mr Peter Tatchell last month not to reapply for it. Mr Tatchell lost a bitterly-contested by-election in the south London seat in February to Mr Simon Hughes of the Liberal-SDP Alliance.



Mr Coates (left) and Mr Tilley

## Foot calls for 'spirit of Darlington'

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Michael Foot gave notice yesterday that what he called the "curse of mass unemployment" would be the principal feature of Labour's record during the general election campaign. Unemployment could only be tackled by the "drastic" methods contained in his party's strategy for expanding the economy, he said.

Labour was going to change the opinion polls, which were "not very agreeable at the moment," Mr Foot declared. What would happen over the coming weeks was that Labour would "get the spirit of Darlington up and down the country", the spirit which had changed the whole atmosphere in the course of a campaign.

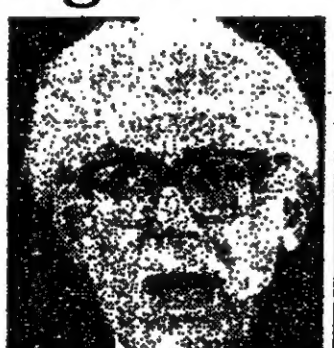
On the eve of the publication of the Labour manifesto, Mr Foot set out to rebut the charge that his party's plans for a multi-million pound refutation of the economy in its first year would lead to fast-rising inflation, and defend the increased government borrowing that would be required to implement it.

Mr Foot said that refutation need not be accompanied by inflation if it was accomplished properly. Other countries had big budget deficits but their inflation rate had not risen.

"It should be the aim of policies to control inflation but above all else to deal with unemployment," he said on the BBC radio programme, *The World This Week*.

Mr Foot said the money for Labour's alternative programme would come from North Sea oil revenues, which he said the Government was "pouring down the drain" on mass unemployment, from the reduced amount that would need to be paid out in unemployment benefit with the creation of jobs, and from borrowing.

"If we do not tackle the problem in this drastic long-term method, we will have unemployment at four million to five million for many years



Mr Michael Foot: Drastic methods needed

ahead. If that happens it will destroy everything else."

Mr Foot predicted that Mrs Thatcher would be promising tax cuts during the election. "The short sharp reason why Mrs Thatcher has not carried out the pledge she gave at the last election to cut taxes was because she has had to increase them to pay for mass unemployment."

The Labour Party was not in favour of scrapping Britain's defences, "as the Tories lyingly say." Labour was not in favour of scrapping the NATO alliance, but it was in favour of establishing a non-nuclear defence policy.

If cruise missiles were deployed in Britain it would make the achievement of any future arms-control agreement "well-nigh impossible," Mr Foot said. "We are determined not to go for a policy which would stop arms control agreements being made," he added. "We are determined to lead the way in stopping the nuclear arms race."

Mr Foot said that there were some things on which the Russians were talking sense. To say that they did not want to secure nuclear superiority over the United States was a sensible approach. "It would mean an appalling burden on their economy," he said.

Mr Foot was at pains to emphasize that the defence policy to be outlined in Labour's manifesto today had the agreement of Mr Denis Healey, his deputy leader. "We have discussed together, we have worked together,"



## Keep Falklands out of election, says Nott

Sir John Nott, the former defence Secretary, said yesterday that it would be deplorable if the Falklands war figured in the general election campaign.

His appeal is apparently directed as much to his former Cabinet colleagues, including Mrs Thatcher, not to make political capital out of the British victory, as to members

of the Opposition who attacked the Government's handling of the Falklands issue.

Sir John, photographed at his farm in Cornwall, told *The Times* in his first interview since he left Mrs Thatcher's cabinet: "The Falklands has happened and it was a success but I would not want it to figure in the general election campaign."

He said it had contributed importantly to the restoration of self-confidence in Britain, which was already well under way when the Falklands crisis began, but that the loss of life that resulted was a tragedy and should not become a party political issue during the election campaign. Photograph: David Breachley.

Fell interview, page 4

## Arms race is US fault - Mortimer

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Scarborough

Mr James Mortimer, general secretary of the Labour Party, yesterday laid the blame for the acceleration of the nuclear arms race firmly at the door of the United States and President Reagan in particular.

In a departure from his peripatetic text on the issue he told the National Union of Public Employees' conference in Scarborough: "The initiative for the latest round in the arms race comes primarily from the US, and we should recognize that."

When the US and the Soviet Union concluded the draft strategic arms limitation Treaty four years ago, the Soviet Government had ratified it but the American Congress, prompted by politicians such as Mr Reagan, had declined to do so.

"We believe that there should be an independent British initiative," Mr Mortimer said. "The Russians and Americans had sufficient nuclear weapons to blow up the world several times over and the addition of nuclear weapons by Britain did not add the cause of peace."

"All it does is provide justification for the proliferation of nuclear weapons throughout the world. If it is good enough for Britain, it is good enough for Argentina, East Germany, Israel and the Arab states. It would justify the possession of nuclear weapons and the installation of nuclear bases in many other countries," Mr Mortimer said.

He added: "The existence of nuclear weapons and bases, particularly US bases in Britain, ensures that in the event of war we become an immediate target for annihilation. We have better things to do with the scarce resources in Britain than to add to nuclear weapons and bases."

NUPE workers are preparing a campaign of civil disobedience to disrupt the Government's nuclear defence exercises. Their leaders agreed yesterday to encourage the establishment of Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament groups in workplaces.

Delegates voted overwhelmingly to call on 700,000 employees of the public services not to cooperate with any civil defence exercises and promised union protection for conscientious objectors.

## Pym wants deal on rebate by June 9

From Ian Murray, Gymnich

The British Government wants agreement on the size of its 1983 EEC budget rebate before the election on June 9. Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, made this clear to his community counterparts at their informal meeting in the 17th century castle here over the weekend.

He left no doubt that he would be looking for a firm commitment for a rebate of about £800m of the £1,200m Britain is expected to owe the community this year. And he appeared more confident that he would succeed than he has for some time.

After the meeting he said that because a general election was pending it seems to be making negotiations easier. But if Mr Pym was "reasonably encouraged," there was an ominous warning from M Claude Cheysson, the French minister, that there could be no short-term deal unless there was major progress on solving the tangled long-term future financing agreement for the community.

The major difficulties surrounding negotiations on the long term deal make it difficult to imagine real progress before the Stuttgart European summit on June 6.

West Germany, now holding the presidency of the Council of Ministers, is therefore making a last effort to try to reconcile the many differences before the foreign ministers meet again. Over the week to come Herr Hans Werner Lautenschlager, the junior West German Foreign Minister, will be touring EEC capitals to try to discover the answer to a number of specific questions before next week's meeting.

There seemed little doubt that the British Government intended to be firm in its demands. Mr Pym told his colleagues that it was a pity things were coming to a head, but this was because they had failed to honour last year's agreement to settle the problem by last November. He said after the meeting that Britain wanted to have figures agreed at next week's meeting which could be agreed by the Stuttgart summit.

## Papal envoy stands by CND attack

By Nicholas Timmins

Archbishop Bruno Heim, the Pope's representative in Britain, appears determined to stand by his attack on Mr Bruce Kent, general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, despite the anger it has caused.

Archbishop Heim, who is convalescing in a clinic in West Germany after an operation in Britain, could not be contacted yesterday, but Mr Peter Bander, a friend of the pro-nuncio, and his publisher, said that the archbishop had told him he "did not wish to withdraw a single comma" from his statement.

Mr Bander, who emphasized that he was not acting as a spokesman for the archbishop, said he spoke to Mr Heim on Saturday, after details of a letter the archbishop is sending to members of the public who write to him appeared in *The Times*.

Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, went out of his way at the weekend to support Mr Kent. He said: "I have great respect for Mr Kent personally and for his integrity and commitment to peace."

He had renewed Mr Kent's permission to work for CND, he said, and there could be no difference among Christians over the ultimate aim of preventing nuclear war.

Mr Heim's letter said that whether those advocating unilateralism were consciously sharing the Soviet ideology, were "useful idiots" or "blinded idealists" would have to be judged in individual cases, "even in that of Bruce Kent."

The Roman Catholic Bishop of East London, Mr Victor Guzzelli, said the pro-nuncio did not have the right to express the views in the public way he did.

## War the only way, warning by Arafat

Damascus (Reuters) - Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, yesterday said war was now the only way to change the balance of power in the Middle East, the Palestinian news agency Wafa reported.

The agency said Mr Arafat was speaking to military officials of his Fatah group and to other PLO officials in Damascus.

"Emergence from the present Arab impasse would be by adoption of the fighting decision and war on an official Arab level to change the balance of power in the region," the agency quoted Mr Arafat as saying.

"Effective war on the practical level is the only available means now of recharting the political map through an Arab military movement supporting the Palestine-Lebanese national struggle."

The PLO would upset "imperialist American plans and say 'no' to Reagan and the programmes of his aggressive administration for hegemony over the Arab region and control of its destinies," Mr Arafat said.

"The PLO will resume its role of struggle to rehabilitate the Arab situation and emerge from the current Arab impasse."

It was one of the toughest statements Mr Arafat had made in several months and came amid tension in eastern Lebanon, where Israeli troops are facing Syrian and PLO forces.

Mr Arafat's remarks appeared to reflect his recent shift towards hardline Syria and away from moderate Jordan, with whom his talks on Middle East peace efforts broke down last month.

His statement also coincided with warnings in the official Syrian media that Syria would try to torpedo a deal for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon, expected to be signed this week.

Commenting on reports of a split among Palestinian fighters in eastern Lebanon, Mr Arafat said two visits he had made to their positions on Friday and Saturday had shown that "all Palestinian ranks and leadership are completely disciplined and committed to the unified Palestinian decision and Palestinian national unity."

Wafa reported earlier that Mr Arafat intended to make more trips to his men's positions in the Bekaa valley in Lebanon. His visit on Friday was the first since he quit Beirut last August during the Israeli siege.

MAJID YOUNG: Major Saad Haddad, the Israel-backed militia leader, said yesterday that the Lebanese Government would declare a "war of liberation" against Syria if it refused to withdraw its estimated 43,000 troops from eastern and northern Lebanon. Syrians dig in, page 5

Leading article, page 13

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## The outlook is for rain followed by rain

By Clive Cookson

The Meteorological Office weather computers foresee no end to the steady stream of Atlantic depressions which have already made this spring one of the wettest on record.

One large system of low pressure is expected to drift across Britain during the week, keeping up the showers that have saturated the country for the past two months, and the computer-generated weather maps show yet another low moving in next weekend.

The powerful new Cyber computer at the Met Office in Bracknell has been issuing remarkably accurate predictions this year, up to a week

ahead, but it is not programmed to look beyond that, and official long-range forecasts are no longer issued. Some unofficial forecasters see the rains lasting well into June - and that is as far as any reputable weatherman will go.

Yesterday, heavy showers moved up the eastern side of the country, giving the London Weather Centre another half inch of rain and bringing May's total so far to 1.5 inches - close to the average of 1.8 inches for the whole month. April's rainfall, 3.9 inches, was a new record for that month.

Official meteorological spokesmen remain anxious to play down the peculiarity of the

wet weather. It is just an ordinary fluctuation of the sort that sees Britain some sort of abnormal weather every year, they say, so special factors, like dust from Mexico's El Chichon volcano, is required to explain our soggy spring. The atmospheric circulation is bringing excessive rainfall to the whole of Western Europe, while Russia basks in unusual warmth and sunshine.

For an unusual spell of unpleasant weather, this wet spring is behaving quite well. The rain is falling regularly day after day, normally in manageable quantities, rather than in a few great deluges, so the water has a chance to run

off the land without causing serious flooding.

Because of the wet weather a lot of farmland is too waterlogged to bear tractors and equipment, and livestock and vegetable farmers are suffering particular hardship.

The AA yesterday reported that floods closed the A13 at Stanford le Hope, Essex, for two hours and several minor roads in the county were blocked too. The A120 at Bishops Cleeve was passable only with extreme care.

The bookmakers William Hill yesterday reported a flood of money for various weather bets.

Forecast, back page



# Merger talks planned for 'super union' to unite a million

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

A new "super union" that would unite a million workers in government employment is being planned.

Delegates to the policy conference of the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) will be urged today by their leaders to approach the Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse) for a closer working relationship in the wake of last year's marathon National Health service strike.

Mr Rodney Bickerton, general secretary of Nupe, said last night that such a step would be a "logical move" for two public service unions seeking to end low pay and forestall job cuts and the "privatization" of services.

Informal contacts on the setting up of a liaison committee between the two unions were held just before the recent death of Mr Albert Spanswick, general secretary of Cohse, and those discussions were regarded as the first step towards a possible amalgamation.

The name of the new union would probably be the Confederation of Public Employees. If it is established it will represent nearly a million workers in the NHS, local government, universities, the water industry and similar services.

It would be in size with the giant engineering union and become the third largest affiliate to the Labour Party, with a block vote of about 800,000.

The motion being discussed today comes from seven hospital and district branches of Nupe. It calls on delegates to recognize that the experience of last year's pay dispute "has

The dispute demonstrated the desire for maximum unity and joint action by most NHS workers.

The motion continues: "Conferees therefore call upon the executive council to begin positive negotiations through the officers of the TUC on the question of Nupe's amalgamation with other health service trade unions."

"In particular, conference proposes that the union immediately starts discussions and negotiations with Cohse on the possibilities of an amalgamation or federation into one union."

Similar proposals from branches will be discussed at the Cohse policy conference in mid-June. Industrial logic points towards a merger but there are some political differences between the two unions, with Nupe supporting the left within the Labour party on most issues while Cohse is traditionally regarded as a right-wing union.

Cohse's general secretary, Mr David Williams, was elected to the Labour Party national executive committee with right-wing support, while Nupe's deputy general secretary, Mr John Sawyer, won a seat on the executive with left-wing backing.

However, minor changes in the composition of Nupe's executive, which yesterday confirmed the left in its strong position, are unlikely to affect the merger discussions.

## Union may black rig firm to aid dismissed divers

From Our Correspondent, Glasgow

Sub-Sea Offshore, the American firm which dismissed 26 divers at the weekend for taking part in a sit-in on a North Sea production platform, has been threatened with industrial action by the National Union of Seamen (NUS).

The union says it will shut down 14 Sub-Sea Offshore work sites and black three support vessels unless the firm's management enters into talks on union recognition by tomorrow.

Mr Warren Duncan, the union's spokesman for divers, said he had teleaxed the com-

pany last week suggesting a cooling-off period, followed by discussions over union recognition and the fate of the 16 divers. "If the deadline is not met, we have only one choice, we would call an official dispute," he added.

The dismissed divers are all members of the Professional Divers' Association. Their sit-in, over union recognition and bonuses, ended last week after interunion arguments and a court interdict ordering them to leave Chevron's Ninian North-east platform.

The arrangement contrasts with Mr Maxwell's plans for BPC's plant at Park Royal, in north London, which has been closed by industrial problems in spite of an agreement with national union officials.

Mr Maxwell said that the Odhams agreement, which involves "substantial" numbers of voluntary redundancies, "makes it immediately possible to install web-offset presses and electronic make-up systems".

The company, which turned a £1.2m pre-tax loss in 1981 into a £12.4m profit last year, is turning the old site into an 18-acre industrial estate, with possible provision for a store and industrial use.

The company has agreed with four unions representing engineers, electricians and printers on the "orderly closure" of Odhams and the creation of a new division known as Odhams-Sun Printers.

It will be merged with Sun Printers, also in Watford, to create, Mr Maxwell said, "one of the most competitive, varied and efficient printing services in the world".

The company had agreed with four unions representing engineers, electricians and printers on the "orderly closure" of Odhams and the creation of a new division known as Odhams-Sun Printers.

Shop stewards met last night to consider their recommendation to a mass meeting and it was thought they agreed with the stand taken by the committee.

Union leaders at the Times factory in Dundee, Tayside, are likely today to urge workers to reject a peace formula and continue their five-week occupation.

A 10-point plan agreed between national union leaders and Mr Frederick Olsen, the owner of the company, has been rejected by the committee controlling the occupation.

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Campaign commentators: Members of the BBC's team to cover the election photographed on the eve of intensive broadcasting of the campaign. They are (front row, left to right) David Dimbleby, Sue Lawley, Jan Leeming, Robin Day; (back row) John Timpson, John Tusa, Jimmy Young, Nick Ross, Fred Emery, Peter Snow. (Photograph: Chris Harris)

## Youth jobs publicity to go ahead

By a Staff Reporter

A £1m government advertising campaign for the new Youth Training Scheme is to start today, in spite of Whitehall fears that it may be seen as politically controversial. The Manpower Services Commission (MSC), who operate the scheme, had imposed a publicity blackout, this was relaxed during the weekend with the agreement of the main political parties.

The television advertising is intended to tell 400,000 young people aged 16 who are due to leave school during the next two months that the Government will pay them £25 a week to train for a year in industry or community projects. The MSC has spent £2m on persuading employers to provide the training.

The scheme is bound to play a large part in Conservative claims to be tackling unemployment; and though the opposition parties support the idea of youth training, this particular scheme has been fiercely attacked by some Labour leaders, including Mr Neil Kinnock, the shadow Education Secretary.

Whitehall fears that the advertising might be seen to be profiting capital for the Tories has been heightened by the fact that Mr David Young, the businessman brought in to run the Manpower Services Commission, is a close political ally of Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment, and Sir Keith Joseph.

Mr Young has agreed to remain silent until after the election and cancelled a scheduled appearance at a public event in Sunderland last Tuesday.

● Poverty wages are an important cause of economic wastage and inefficiency as well as hardship and injustice, the Low Pay Unit states in a booklet published today (our Labour Reporter writes).

The unit argues for a legally enforced national minimum wage for the seven million low paid workers who earn less than £90 a week.

The report, *The Case for a National Minimum Wage*, estimates that the number of families forced to rely on family income supplement has doubled since 1979, and it blames government policies for the deteriorating position of the low paid.

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## Firm threatened over silos

By Nicholas Timmins

Threats have been made against Tarmac, which is building the Greenham Common cruise missile silos, the company said yesterday.

A telephone call to the company's head office in Bilston, in the West Midlands, warned it of attacks on employees unless the company gives up the contract. A call to one of Tarmac's Yorkshire depots said that trucks would be burnt.

In South Yorkshire tyres have been left on lorries in Tarmac's livery but driven by owner-drivers, and CND symbols have been daubed on a show house in gloss paint.

A Tarmac spokesman said the telephone calls had come from people "purporting to be supporters of the peace movement. But we would be very surprised if CND were involved in this."

CND is running a campaign against Tarmac and there have been demonstrations outside Tarmac offices, but the company spokesman said: "In our dealings with CND they have always been peaceful and amicable; there has been no hostility."

Mrs Joan Riddock, chairman of CND, said the threats had no connexion with CND.

"We have a working party dealing with the issues of firms involved in nuclear preparations, but that group, like all our other groups, is committed to non-violence and our campaign has never, and will never, endorse violent action, or threats of that nature."

Women from the Greenham Common peace camp launched an appeal for funds yesterday, saying the camp had reached a crisis over its future. The appeal came after bailiffs evicted the women from land near the base last week, saying they had to pay £1,000 in costs awarded by the High Court and a further £1,000 for the eviction.

Miss Jane Hickman, the women's solicitor, said: "The financial situation at Greenham is extremely serious because the women at the camp have incurred a lot of expenditure on leaflets, transport and recent legal action."

Mrs Helen John, one of the peace women, described the council's move as "legalized theft". One of the imprisoned cars belonged to a German woman visiting the camp who was told she had to leave with the car's earlier actions, and Mrs John said none of the cars belonged to women named in the High Court action.

The fund stands at about £2,000 and has made three grants - £250 each to two peace camps and £100 for a Greenham Common woman to obtain counsel's opinion.

Founders of the fund include the Rev Dr Kenneth Greet, secretary of the Methodist Conference and co-chairman of the World Disarmament Campaign, Mr Malcolm Harper, Director of the United Nations Association, and Mrs Joan Riddock, chairman of CND.

● A fund to help people who get into financial difficulties as a result of civil disobedience and non-violent direct action against nuclear bases and other military installations is to be launched.

The Peacemakers' Relief Society has been created with the support of the Quakers, peace campaigners and leading figures in CND at a time when direct action against nuclear bases is about to increase.

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## Woman who knew spy stood in local poll

By John Witherow

The woman who was condemned by the Security Commission for not exposing Geoffrey Prime, the spy, stood unsuccessfully as a Conservative candidate in the local elections on May 5.

Miss Dorothy Barsby, who failed to report Prime's spying for the Russians while he was working at the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) at Cheltenham, won only 92 votes in Swanscombe ward in Dartford, Kent, and came last in a field of six.

She was proposed by Mr Tony Gillham, chairman of the Dartford Conservative Party, who described her yesterday as "attractive, intelligent and a good conversationalist who was interested in party matters."

Miss Barsby was later selected by a committee to fight a ward that had been a Labour stronghold. "To some extent she was a paper candidate. She was never going to be elected, but some of them, go on to better things," Mr Gillham said.

Miss Barsby, aged 34, is a friend of Prime's first wife, Helena, who told her that Prime had confessed to spying for the Russians nine years before he was caught.

Neither woman approached the police and Miss Barsby, a former personnel officer who had lived in Dartford for 18 months, told an MI5 investigating officer that she knew of no reason why Prime should not handle secret documents.

The Security Commission described her behaviour as "disgraceful", but Mr Gillham said that it was too early to form a judgment and she had probably left her interrogation by the security officer believing she had answered all his questions.

"When she was interviewed she thought the visiting officer would press her into telling something about Prime, but instead he asked her about herself. It is very convenient that the officer is now dead and all the mud is now being thrown at Dorothy and Helena and not him," he added.

Mr Gillham denied that her standing as a local Conservative candidate could affect the general election campaign of Mr Robert Dunn, the Tory MP who was elected to the Dartford seat in the 1979 election with a majority of 1,392.

He said that Miss Barsby became friendly with Mrs Prime while she was a pupil at a local grammar school near Dartford. They had maintained their friendship when Miss Barsby went to live in London and after Mrs Prime married in 1969.

When it was discovered that neither woman had attempted to reveal Prime's espionage activities government legal advisers considered prosecution but found that there was no evidence that either had committed a criminal offence.

Mr Gillham said that Miss Barsby had been in contact with her parents to assure them that she was well, but she had given no indication where she was staying or when she would return to her home in London Road, Dartford.

● A full-sized Pakicetus skull would have been 18in long and 6in wide, with a wolf-like snout. The shape of the rest of the body is speculative, because no other bones have yet been found, but it was probably at least 6ft long and 500 lb in weight.

Source: *Nature* (vol 220, pp403-406)

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## Science report Aural clue to when whales left the land

By Clive Cookson

The Fossils of ancestral whales which lived on land about 50 million years ago have been found in Pakistan.

The discovery, by a group of US paleontologists, seems to solve an important mystery of mammalian evolution: when did whales take to the seas?

The primitive whale fossils, which have been named *Pakicetus*, were embedded in the rocky hills of the Indus valley. They consist of the back part of a skull and several teeth, including an exceptionally well preserved middle ear.

Professor Philip Gingerich, of the University of Michigan, said that although the skull's anatomical details clearly showed it to be a whale, its ear was that of an animal living mainly on land. It did not have the directional "sonar" system of modern whales, in which the left and right earbones are isolated from one another.

The remains of *Pakicetus* were unearthed from sedimentary rocks of continental rather than marine origin. The same strata contained fossils of animals known to live on land, including hoofed mammals.

According to Professor Gingerich, *Pakicetus* probably lived on the shores of the ancient Tethys Sea, which once separated the Indian subcontinent from the rest of Asia. "We speculate that ancestral whales initially were land mammals who, feeding on both meat and fish, colonized the sea shore," he said.

"Enriched by an abundance of fish, they then moved offshore and gradually made their home in the sea." That transition, happened between 50 million and 40 million years ago.

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## Sellafield cancer link rejected

By Ronald Faux

Renewed speculation on links between increases in cancer cases in Cumbria and radiation emissions from the Sellafield nuclear complex has been rejected by a specialist in community medicine in the region.

Dr Peter Tiplady, health officer for east Cumbria and author of a report on the incidence of cancer in the county, said that the 60 per cent increase between 1979 and 1980 in the number of cases among men of myeloma, a particularly virulent form of bone cancer, could not be laid at the door of Sellafield.

Myeloma may be caused by radiation, and the disease was highlighted in a recent television documentary about Cumbria.

"It would be very speculative to suggest a connexion," Dr Tiplady said. "Seven cases of myeloma were reported in south-west Cumbria when the statistical average suggested there should be only 4.5 cases in a two-year period. That was a 60 per cent increase. In the whole of the Barrow-in-Furness district there was a total of 538 cancer cases in that time."

Dr Tiplady added that while the increase could be influenced by different diagnostic procedures, it was generally felt that it was real rather than artificial, and something the medical authorities in the area would be looking at. Work had begun to discover whether any of the myeloma sufferers were former Sellafield workers.

"It is not an alarming increase in itself, and I am not convinced in any way that it is related to the nuclear presence in west Cumbria."

● Poverty wages are an important cause of economic wastage and inefficiency as well as hardship and injustice, the Low Pay Unit states in a booklet published today (our Labour Reporter writes).

The unit argues for a legally enforced national minimum wage for the seven million low paid workers who earn less than £90 a week.

The report, *The Case for a National Minimum Wage*, estimates that the number of families forced to rely on family income supplement has doubled since 1979, and it blames government policies for the deteriorating position of the low paid.

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# 'Millions' of homes at risk from hidden fault that weakens outer walls

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

Millions of homes in the North, in East Anglia, on the South Coast and in other exposed areas are potentially at risk from serious structural faults that have cost owners up to £20,000 to rectify.

Between 1890 and 1940 more than nine million homes were built, many using cavity wall method of construction, which surveys say is beginning to show evidence of faults that can lead to collapsing walls.

It is impossible to be precise about the number of homes affected; cavity wall construction has been in use since the early century, but did not become a widespread method of building until the 1920s.

Some experts believe, however, that as many as half of Britain's 21 million houses have cavity walls. Mr Malcolm Hollis, chartered building surveyor who predicts that by the end of the century about seven million homes will need remedial treatment.

At the heart of the matter are the metal "ties", used to hold the inner and outer sections of wall together. There is growing evidence of serious erosion which renders them useless.

Mr Adrian Jones, a chartered building surveyor with the Sussex firm of King & Chase, says cavity wall failure is causing problems "as never before," which could lead to the collapse of many houses built before the Second World War.

"When the ties rust away the walls are left in two halves, each insufficiently strong to stand alone. A house in this condition may be falling apart," Mr Jones said.

"The problem is coming to light now because most houses from before the turn of the century were built with solid walls, so there were no ties to rust. It has taken forty to eighty years for the problem to show itself.

If the defect is caught early enough, then repair costs could be as low as £1,000, which would cover replacement ties or a new type of cavity wall insulating foam which acts as a structural support.

But if the house is structurally unstable then repairs for an average three bedroom home can total £20,000.

Although the corrosion of wall ties is regarded as a problem affecting houses built before the Second World War, a spokesman from the Building Research Advisory Bureau said that the defect had been discovered in postwar houses as well.

The first signs were long horizontal cracks in the outer wall, which if untreated would widen. The outer wall can also bulge to the point where it "popped" and collapsed.

Householders who believe their homes show signs of possible tie failure should ask a qualified chartered building surveyor to carry out a detailed inspection of the property. But he must have the right equipment, such as fibre optic probes.

It is thought that most insurance policies do not provide cover against tie failure. As Mr Hollis points out it is impossible to get insurance cover against old age, of which this problem is a symptom.

Mr Jones admits that in Sussex he has only come across a handful of homes which were actually collapsing, but says there are many more which show signs of this potentially serious structural problem. He

warns potential buyers of a house built during that period to have the property examined by a structural surveyor.

The problem is not confined to privately owned homes. A council estate in the Aigburth district of Liverpool is suffering from an advanced form of tie failure.

It was only discovered after residents applied to buy their homes. Surveys showed that the walls were dangerously close to collapsing repair bills could total £18,000.

A spokesman for Liverpool City Council commented last week that tie failure was a common problem in the city; it was not surprising that the tenants had encountered it.

Mr Hollis said that areas particularly exposed to wet and windy conditions were prone to the problem.

"In Liverpool they had enormous problems on council estates with ties that have gone, resulting in the outer wall bowing considerably."

Mr Hollis said that when the ties completely eroded most of the weight was borne by the outer wall, which was not strong enough. In the worst cases, the outer walls collapsed.

He believed that at least 5 per cent of houses in the North, in London and on the South Coast which have been inspected show signs of the problem. Unfortunately, only about one house in 10 is surveyed. So it could be more widespread.

Mr Hollis agreed that probably 5 per cent of all homes with cavity walls in those areas were showing signs of failure.



Pincer movement; Nicholas Johnson, aged two and a half (left) coming face to face with a live Scottish lobster at Billingsgate Market open day in London yesterday. (Photograph John Vooe).

## Group call for inquiry into sentencing by JPs

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Bristol group of Radical Alternatives to Prison (RAP) has asked for a judicial inquiry by the European Court of Human Rights into "the maladministration of local justice in England and Wales".

It says that there is no justification for wide variations in sentencing practice by magistrates' courts. That is disclosed, it says, by the compilation during the past decade from Home Office statistics of an annual league table of rates of adult imprisonment by the courts.

The latest figures showed that 1981 was a bad year for fair play, RAP claims. Dorset sent 13.23 per cent of male adult offenders directly to jail, compared with a national average of

9.39 per cent and a low figure of 4.14 per cent in Warwickshire.

"Individual benches within county areas provide even more startling contrasts", Newbury, in Berkshire, sent 14 times as many people to prison as the Blyth Valley Bench in Northumberland, 22.6 per cent, compared with 1.6 per cent.

Though RAP has drawn the attention of successive Home Secretaries and Lord Chancellors to the wide variations, "no practical action has been taken to curb the powers which some magistrates abuse with so little concern for the basic rights of their fellow citizens".

RAP says individual cases from Newbury or Dorset cannot be referred to the European Court of Human Rights

## Trainee GP miscarries after 75-hour shift

A doctor's union has stepped up its campaign for shorter working hours after a young pregnant trainee doctor was said to have miscarried as a result of over-work. The incident was described in last week's *Doctor* magazine by Dr Jane Bernal, a member of the 5,000-strong Medical Practitioners' Union. She said the trainee doctor working at an inner city children's hospital, who was three months' pregnant, fell ill at the beginning of a 75-hour weekend shift which began at 9am on a Friday.

She asked to go home, but her consultant refused permission because no other doctor was available. Although she was vomiting, and had diarrhoea, she carried on working and treated about 100 patients with no more than an hour's rest at a

stretch. On the Tuesday she had a miscarriage.

The article concludes that the case "demonstrates the sort of thing that doctors have put up with for much too long, and why something needs to be done urgently. Clearly neither the hospital nor the Department of Health and Social Security has any intention of doing anything about making sure this sort of thing does not happen."

Dr Bernal, who leads the union's junior doctors' section, said they were demanding a minimum 60-hour working week and the abolition of long weekend shifts.

Dr Bernal said the woman did not want to be named, and did not identify the hospital or health authority, but said the doctor was considering legal action.

## Doctors tune in by phone to baby's heart

By Pearce Wright

For ten days, doctors listened to the heart of an unborn baby by telephone because its mother, aged 31, lived 14 miles from the hospital and had no transport. She was also a diabetic who had experienced complications in the latter stages of an earlier pregnancy.

A method of monitoring the baby's progress over the public telephone network was devised by Dr Kevin Dalton, Dr Andrew Dawson and Mr Nigel Gough, an electronics specialist, of the department of obstetrics and gynaecology at the Welsh National School of Medicine in Cardiff.

The procedure began after the thirty-fourth week of pregnancy. In spite of the cost of telephone charges, monitoring the patient from home each day cost less than 6 per cent of the daily hospital bed charges and the share of the equipment for examining the baby's heart. Heartbeats arriving at the obstetric unit appeared instantaneously on a computer display screen.

An account of the procedure is described in the current issue of the *British Medical Journal*. Telecardiogram recordings, as they are called, were tried first for short periods on women with no complications and involved five people at home and ten in hospital.

A small "squawk box" is placed on the woman's abdominal wall.

Made by Sonicaid, a specialist firm of medical equipment suppliers, it consists of an electronic detector and a loudspeaker. The mouthpiece of the telephone is placed beside the loudspeaker for the heartbeat to be transmitted.

In the case quoted, the daily link between home and hospital continued until irregularities were detected and the woman was admitted to hospital, where she gave birth to a normal baby.

## Burial ground find fills historical gap

By David Nicholson-Lord

A couple using a metal detector have uncovered a burial ground in West Sussex which may cast new light on the period after the Romans left Britain.

The find was revealed at a public meeting in Chichester on Saturday. Thirty volunteers will start intensive excavations in July on the early medieval, or Dark Ages, burial ground, which is thought to contain hundreds of graves.

Among items found so far are silver and bronze jewelry, described as of high quality, coins, rings, buckles and spearheads. One brooch from Iwerland, has been dated at about AD 400 and appears to indicate that the Jutes, who colonized Britain in the wake of the Romans, settled in Sussex.

Among the graves that have been examined are those of a warrior of 6ft 3in, who was buried with his spear, and a wealthy woman buried with her handbag containing Roman coins.

Uncovering Imperial Rome, page 10

## Lord Elgin rejects Greek claim

By Ronald Faux

Lord Elgin and Kincardine said yesterday that he would approve of the return of the Elgin Marbles to Greece as part of a worldwide attempt to recreate and recapture the great spirit of the Parthenon architecture.

However, he dismissed the present case being put by the Greek Government for their return, which he said was "as weak as water".

The Greek Government are to make a formal claim for the return of the sculptures, removed by a forebear of Lord Elgin from the Parthenon in the nineteenth century with the approval of the Greek authorities.

Neither the British Government nor the British Museum have shown any sympathy in the past for the Greek claim to the marbles, and Lord Elgin believed that the present demands, however engagingly expressed by Miss Melina Mercouri, the Greek Minister of Culture, would not win sympathy.

"They are merely saying that 'I want one thing to go from your museum to my museum', he said.

"But if an attempt is made to recapture the entire spirit of the great architecture by bringing together the Parthenon collections from around the world, then that would be different."

● ATHENS: It is still not clear whether the request for the return of the Elgin Marbles will be made by the Greek Foreign Ministry through diplomatic channels or by Miss Mercouri, who is due in London on Saturday as guest of the Institute of Contemporary Arts (Mario Modiano writes).

## Livingstone accuses the press of distortion

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, today accused newspapers of portraying him as a "raving lunatic". He says in the magazine *Tibbis* that newspapers have become "propaganda sheets" for their editors or owners.

*Tibbis* has given Mr Livingstone a regular column. He said he had jumped at the chance of contributing a column "to reach over one million people without reporters, editors or owners twisting what I want to say". If he believed everything he

read about "Red Ken" then "I wouldn't vote for him myself".

Mr Livingstone added: "Clearly no one in Britain wants to see censorship of the papers, but there are now so few left and there is so little choice in political terms that some sort of action is required."

"I am tempted to say that we need a new law to prevent millionaire Australians coming over here to buy up our newspapers. But instead we could just extend the existing laws which control political balance."

## 'Inquest' decides Mozart was murdered by person unknown

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, who was buried in a pauper's grave the day after his death in 1791, was murdered, a "jury" decided on Saturday.

After listening to two hours of evidence on the circumstances surrounding the composer's death, the "jury", at the Brighton Festival, remained divided in its opinion, but less than half of the 250 believed that he had died of natural causes, as the official version has it.

A majority returned a "verdict" of murder, but disputed which of three suspects was guilty. Finally Franz Hoffmeyer, a Viennese court official and husband of Mozart's piano pupil, Magdalena, possibly helped by his mistress, emerged as chief villain, with 60 votes to support his guilt.

Sassaparilla, Mozart's composition pupil and lodger and thought to be the lover of his wife, Constanza, received 39 votes. Salieri, the court Kapellmeister, who has already gained a bad name through Peter Shaffer's play *Amadeus*, was thought guilty by 28 people.

The proceedings of this "inquest" provoked high passions and Salieri, played like

the other witnesses by an amateur actor, was roundly hissed as he took the stand to give evidence.

Poor Mozart. If Shaffer's play had him turning in his grave, this event would have had him spinning.

The "inquest" was presided over by the Mr Michael Hutchinson, QC, who acted as the



Mozart

coroner and, like all good judges, had prepared his summing-up before hearing the witnesses.

The idea for the "inquest" came from Mr Ian Hunter,

artistic director of the festival, whose theme is the last years of Mozart's life.

It sought answers to the question why Mozart, the most popular composer in Vienna, was buried hastily in a pauper's grave on December 6, 1791. Crowds had gathered outside his house as he lay dying, yet only a dozen attended his funeral and three went to the graveside.

The evidence was gathered by Mr Simon Whitworth, a barrister, who prepared briefs to be presented by three other barristers. It claimed that Mozart was not a pauper, was not depressed or worn out and was not an unrecognized failure.

Those claims are based on research by Mr Francis Carr, who is writing a book on the subject, and by Professor Horace Fitzpatrick.

The mystery of why Mozart was buried in a pauper's grave when a third-class burial giving him a single grave had been arranged remains unsolved.

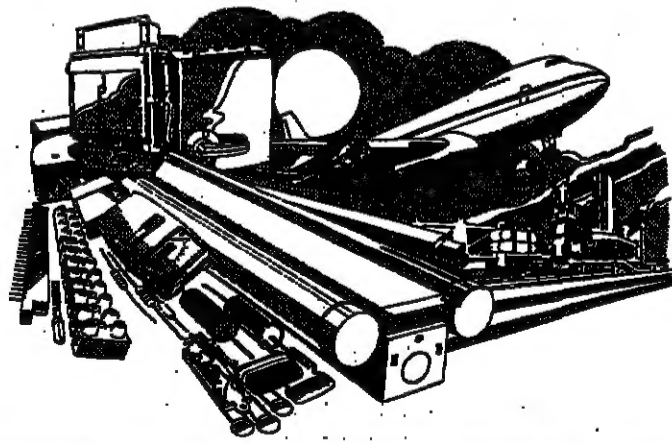
Everyone enjoys good, mysterious inquest, and at the end of the proceedings Mr Hutchinson concluded that a charge of murder would have to be contemplated.

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# No nostalgia for Nott as he turns his back on Parliament and the press

By Craig Seton

A year ago Sir John Nott, as Defence Secretary, was weighed down with the pressures of the Falklands campaign. Now that he has left the Commons after 16 years his concerns are his new City career and his 150-acre farm in Cornwall.

He can even afford the luxury of worrying about how to clear his three-acre lake of reeds and wondering whether the run of sea trout on his local river will provide good fishing.

In the first general election since he entered the Commons for St Ives in 1966 Sir John is able to relax on his farm near Hayle, in Cornwall.

He told *The Times*: "I do not have any regrets about leaving the House. It was a decision made over a period of time. I am not a person who goes in for nostalgia, as I have always looked forward to the next event and the next career rather than concentrating on memories of the past one."

In spite of the rumours that the Falklands campaign finally determined him to give up his parliamentary career, Sir John, who is 51, said that he had intended to leave at about the age of 50, and not leave the decision for another parliament. That was why he had welcomed an early election so that he could commit himself to his work with Lazard Brothers, the City bank.

He predicted that the Conservatives would be returned with a reasonable working majority and added: "I see no reason to be over-confident on the result. It is going to be much closer than opinion polls now predict."

But discussing his years in Parliament and high office, he gave the distinct impression that he regretted that history might not remember him more for his role in the Falklands than for his controversial review of defence policy, or even his part in a government which abandoned exchange and price controls.

He said: "I think in defence the process of self-examination we went through and the financial pressures were very

healthy. These pressures will return in about 1986 and I only hope my successors recognize now as I did that defence must be kept under tight financial reins."

"Some newspapers were highly critical of me during the Falklands, and highly critical of my defence review. The editor of *The Times*, for instance, had some Victorian nostalgia for our great naval past. I was criticised at the outset of the Falklands campaign but it is now clear from ordinary people that none of that criticism stuck."

Denying that he was settling old scores, he took some relish in describing as the best newspapers in Fleet Street *The Sun*, which captured the gut feeling of the British people, and *The Guardian*, whose views of life he deplored while accepting that it was a well put together newspaper.

The worst, he said, were *The Daily Telegraph* for its inaccuracies, and *The Times* for its pretensions.

Asked if he regretted not becoming Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Cabinet post that Whitehall watchers said he always wanted, Sir John said: "It is a very important and prominent job. The Chancellor is effectively number two in the government."

"But I did not want it that much. I wanted it more before I had Defence and if I had still wanted it I would have fought this election, wouldn't I?"

Sir John said now that he had ceased to be an MP he did not feel any more or less free. As an MP and senior minister, he had been very independent, and had always felt so.

He said: "It is not that I feel more free now. I feel an obligation to do a good job in a new career."

Thatcher's mistake, page 10  
Leading article, page 11



Sir John Nott speaking during the Falklands crisis.

Sir John, who has been working with Lazard for three weeks, has bought a London house, and is commuting to Cornwall at weekends.

On reflection, he said, the Commons had changed for the worse since 1966, and he deplored the growth in the

select committee system, which had enabled bright new MPs to feel self-important but had reduced the importance of the Commons Chamber.

Although he had voted for broadcasting of Parliament, it was a poor development and he would not vote to have the BBC out of the place.

Prime Minister's question time, he complained, had become even more of a farce, a media event.

The Conservative Party, too, had changed, but for the better, and was now closer to the basic wishes and prejudices of the British people than 10 or 15 years ago.

He accepted happily that it now represented less the professional, middle-class intellectual population who might read *The Guardian*, probably supported Mr Edward Heath and now almost certainly supported the Alliance.

Of Mrs Thatcher he said that her strength was that on the whole her colleagues liked her. "I liked her generosity, and I liked her as a person. She is thoughtful and not a little personal things. But that is not to say she was easy to work for."

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Thatcher's mistake, page 10  
Leading article, page 11

## Tories 'committed to NHS'

The Conservatives have "a clear and unequivocal commitment to the National Health Service", Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday.

He told a meeting in Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, where he is the prospective Conservative candidate, that the NHS "had never had more money and resources devoted to it".

Labour is expected to make the Government's record on health a main issue in its election campaign. Mr Fowler said that the NHS had "never employed more doctors and more nurses, and it has never treated more patients. By any standards that is a record of outstanding success."

He said that the Government was also committed to getting the best value for money and had achieved an increase in the efficiency of the service.

He added that the Conservatives believed in a "constructive partnership" between all sectors, including the voluntary and private areas.

Labour, he said, would pursue a "vendetta" against the private sector and deny people the freedom to choose as they chose. Meeting the extra demand for health in the future would need "all available sources of social provision".

Mr Neil Kinnock, the shadow Education Secretary, told a conference in Cardiff of the Wales region of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union that unemployment would soar to six million if the Conservative Party won a second term of office.

Returning a Labour government to power was the only way to stop the Conservatives' destruction of the British

economy, Mr Kinnock told the conference on Saturday.

"Mrs Thatcher's propaganda team are now mobilizing to spread the view that unemployment in Britain is something beyond her control and responsibility, like the weather or the Cup Final result, or the mating habits of fleas," he said.

"Unemployment, they say, is just an international ailment for which no government has a remedy. It is their old story, which they told us 30 years ago. It was fiction then, and it is fiction now."

"No one should fool themselves that if she wins on June 9 Margaret Thatcher will change direction. If she wins, the people of Britain will have volunteered for the dole queue economy and the slump society,

and a re-elected Thatcher would take full, merciless advantage of that," Mr Kinnock said.

Mr William Rodgers, of the Social Democratic Party, told a meeting of Alliance supporters at the National Liberal Club in London yesterday that a Labour government could mean five million men and women out of work.

"What British industry desperately needs in order to produce more jobs is confidence and incentive. But Labour's leaders, pushed further and further leftward by Tony Benn's legions of militant extremists, now aim to produce not confidence based on a united national effort, but a bitter and destructive class war."

"What the men who now lead Labour have misleadingly entitled 'New Hope for Britain' should be seen for what it really is: a policy of 'no hope for Britain'. It is, in fact, the most extreme and dangerous policy document ever set before the British people by that party."

He said that Labour's proposal for industry was "a brew of heavy-handed bureaucratic state control, massive nationalization of major industries and companies, and misguided meddling in the City, which would create maximum disruption."

"Far from reducing unemployment, Labour would thus add more millions to the queue of jobless inherited from the Tory wreckers."

Mr Rodgers said that British working people "know from the horrors of Tory rule that the Conservatives offer nothing but ashes."

The opening days of the 1983 election campaign have seen signs of a revival of an old 1960s debate. Has collective Cabinet government finally been replaced under Mrs Margaret Thatcher by personal prime ministerial government?

Discussion rambles on privately in Whitehall with discreet suggestions from some quarters that if you care for the health of cabinet government, you should be concerned at the prospect of Mrs Thatcher's reelection. At the political level, Dr David Owen said last week that the Prime Minister was the kind of politician who needed to be "curbed".

The 1960s controversy was stimulated by two factors: Mr Harold Macmillan in his "superman" phase looked both grand and over-mighty; in 1961 Prime Minister's question time in the Commons became a fixed, twice-weekly, 15-minute routine in which questions could be asked across the whole range of government business.

In 1962 the late Professor John Mackintosh, a constitutional authority who became an MP, did a "Bagehot" (the nineteenth-century chronicler of power) on cabinet government, relegating it to his *The British Cabinet* to the dignified, rather than the efficient of the Constitution, and announced that the age of prime ministerial government was upon us.

The late Mr Richard Crossman became the arch-proponent of the Mackintosh thesis. Professor George Jones, of the London School of Economics, took them both on, stripped away the superficialities and pronounced Cabinet government alive and well.

After the publication in 1969 of Professor Anthony King's *The British Prime Minister*, the debate went underground into the final papers of political science undergraduates, until the highly personalized premiership of Mrs Thatcher exhumed it. Before considering whether she has hijacked the British Constitution, one has to play a 10-year gap by

depicting what Mr Edward Heath (1970-74), Sir Harold Wilson (1974-76) and Mr James Callaghan (1976-79) were up to in the meantime.

The best witnesses are those who served them most closely and survived the changes, the senior civil servants. Convention requires them to remain anonymous.

"I think Ted dominated to a greater extent than the others, including Mrs Thatcher. Ministers were frightened of him. Ted was a technician, felt he had to be on top of everything. He would have been a jolly good permanent secretary."

"Ted did not really believe in cabinet government. He was never happy in cabinet. One of the reasons for his downfall was that he was pretty rough on all the British institutions, wanted to modernize them but realized he could not do it."

"Ted felt the Cabinet committee system had got out of hand. He preferred the mixed committee of officials and ministers. It had a slightly forced atmosphere. Officials would not disagree with their ministers. They disappeared pretty quickly. Harold had a thing about them."

Sir Harold Wilson was not at his best in his last

premiership. He was himself as a centre half, feeding passes to his experienced forwards. One official who worked for him said that between 1974 and 1976 he treated government as if it was a game of space invaders, concentrating on each blip as it crossed the screen, whether it was important or not. But he was a traditionalist when it came to Cabinet government.

"Harold worked very hard at Cabinet government. He saw the cabinet and the Cabinet committee system as a crucial element in retaining the balance. Harold counted heads. He also expected everyone to have a view."

The evidence on Mr Callaghan points in two, contradictory directions if one examines his over-riding priority, economic strategy. The 26 Cabinet meetings held to discuss the International Monetary Fund's conditions for a loan in the autumn of 1976 represent the high water mark of Cabinet government in recent times. Full Cabinet, not a small committee of the more mighty ministers, became the forum for resolving

issues that affected every area of government activity. Yet once the loan was secured, strategic policy-making was removed to a tiny gathering of ministers and officials which Mr Callaghan called his "economic seminar".

That high command, which between 1977 and 1979 oversaw the transition from a devaluationist to a monetarist strategy, consisted of Mr Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Harold (now Lord) Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy, the Prime Minister's Principal Private Secretary and the heads of the Treasury, Bank of England, the Cabinet Office and the Central Policy Review Staff.

The 1970s saw a variety of styles: prime ministerial under Mr Heath, traditionalist under Sir Harold and a bit of both under Mr Callaghan. But had any of them really shifted the bedrock of constitutional practice by 1979? Did that have to wait for Mrs Thatcher, the most single-minded Prime Minister of modern times?



Mr T. O'Shaughnessy appealing to the young in his attempt to win back the seat for the Tories.

## Constituency profile: Hillhead

### Jenkins faces test of new boundaries

From Ian Bradley, Glasgow

Social Democratic Party workers anxious to begin canvassing at the weekend in Glasgow, Hillhead, had to kick in the door of their new headquarters on Saturday morning after the lock had jammed. Mr Roy Jenkins will need equal strength, and no further mishaps, if he is to hold the seat which he won by 2,000 votes in the by-election in March last year.

Mr Christopher Ford, the SDP agent, predicts that it will be a "tight fight" and both the Labour and Conservative candidates say they are confident of winning.

The main problem facing Mr Jenkins is that boundary changes have enlarged Hillhead since the by-election, adding 18,000 voters from the safe Labour seat of Kelvin Grove. As a result the constituency has dramatically changed its social composition.

From being a largely middle-class area with high proportion of owner occupiers it has become an inner city seat which extends to Buchanan Street, in the centre of Glasgow, and takes in the largely working-class areas of Partick and Anderston.

The Labour Party makes no secret of the fact that Hillhead is the seat it would most like to

win in Scotland. Party supporters are being drafted in from other Glasgow constituencies, all of which are solidly Labour.

The Labour candidate is Mr Neil Carmichael, aged 61, who has lived in Glasgow all his life and represented the city in Parliament for 21 years, most recently as MP for Kelvin Grove, which is now part of Hillhead.

"My feeling is that I will win by 1,500 votes, with the Tories coming second", Mr Carmichael said. "We are the best organized constituency in Scotland."

In the by-election Roy Jenkins had an enormous team working for him and the Alliance was at the height of its popularity, with everyone seeing him as the next Prime Minister. Now people have a rather different view of him."

Mr Jenkins, however, because of his position as a party leader must maintain a national as well as a local presence throughout this election campaign.

Although interest is bound to focus on the fight between Mr Jenkins and Mr Carmichael, Hillhead is regarded by many analysts as a three-horse race. Mr Jenkins won the seat from the Conservatives, who

had held it without interruption since 1918.

Mr Murray Teek, aged 32, the Conservative candidate, a history teacher from Ayrshire, says that he is "supremely confident" that the Tories will win it back.

Local government representation offers few clues to the likely result. The Conservatives and Labour each hold three seats on the Glasgow District Council.

On the Strathclyde Regional Council Hillhead is represented by two Labour councillors and one Liberal, who won his seat last year from a Conservative.

The result could well be decided by the vote of the Scottish National Party, which

is fielding Mr George Lisle, a local veterinary surgeon, who stood against Mr Jenkins in the by-election.



Mr George Lisle, a local veterinary surgeon, who stood against Mr Jenkins in the by-election.

Results at by-election, March 22, 1982  
Hillhead Constituency: Labour 2,000; Tories 1,100; Alliance 100; SNP 50; Lib 200

Profile of Glasgow, Hillhead

1981 % Own Occ	20
1981 % Low Auth	20
1981 % Mid A	20
1981 % High A	20
1979 % Electorate	54,700
1979 % BSC/NTN national result	Lab 2,000

Key: % Owner Occ: proportion owning their own homes; % Low auth: proportion of council tenants; % Mid A: proportion of non-council tenants; % High A: proportion of private tenants; % Prof: proportion of professional occupations; % BSC/NTN: national results; % Electorate: total electorate; % BSC/NTN: national results; % Lab: Labour; % SNP: Scottish National Party.

## Constituency profile: Swansea, West

### The opponents with a common cause

From Tim Jones

Cardiff

In different times Mr Alan Williams, who is defending in Swansea, West, the Labour seat in Wales most vulnerable to the Conservatives, might have been offered the help of Dr Julian Lewis, the right-wing Conservative candidate who will be striving to unseat him.

For both men have been prominent in fighting against extreme left-wing entryism into the Labour Party, although their methods have been different.

Dr Lewis, probably the only Conservative candidate in the election who is proud to have been a Labour Party member, chose to infiltrate the party to fight what he perceives as "internal subversion by Trotskyist communists".

Mr Williams, who is defending his seat against the left by exposing the degree to which he was attempting to "hijack" nominations in safe but complacent Labour constituencies. As the citizens of Wales's second largest com-

munity are about to discover, any philosophical similarity between the two is purely a figment of the imagination.

Dr Lewis, son of a Swansea tailor, says: "I know Mr Williams is a moderate but if Labour get in all the shots will be called by the extreme left."

Profile of Swansea, West

1981 % Own Occ	57.4
1981 % Low Auth	28.6
1981 % Mid A	9
1981 % High A	32.8
1981 % Prof	19
1982 % Electorate	54,700
1979 % BSC/NTN national result	Lab 2,000

Key: % Owner Occ: proportion owning their own homes; % Low auth: proportion of council tenants; % Mid A: proportion of non-council tenants; % High A: proportion of private tenants; % Prof: proportion of professional occupations; % BSC/NTN: national results; % Electorate: total electorate; % BSC/NTN: national results; % Lab: Labour; % SNP: Scottish National Party.

Mr Williams, also an Oxford man, feels he needs no lessons in fighting off the far left from a man who succeeded in turning entryism into a fine art. He has held the seat for almost 20 years

and gained reelection after conducting a spirited and public fight against the Militant Tendency.

Because of his campaign, Swansea, West, was one of the constituencies investigated by the Labour national executive during the pre-election purge against Militant.

Dr Lewis, who has become one of the biggest thorns in the side of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, helped during his Labour card-carrying days to involve the national executive in a Court of Appeal case before Lord Denning.

He is now a consultant on international affairs specializing in defence and subversion and is honorary research director of the Campaign for Peace through Security. Dr Lewis organized the siting of which flew over the women peace protesters at Greenham Common trailing a poster saying "The Kremlin sends its congratulations".

Mr Peter Sain ley Berry, the Liberal-SDP Alliance candidate, who marches under the SDP

banner, considers both men to represent extremist parties.

Because of the rules which precluded him from political involvement Mr Sain ley Berry paid job as a principal officer in the Welsh Office to fight the seat. "After years of implementing political policies I would like to be the organ grinder rather than the monkey. Both parties are polarizing more and more to the left or right and the Alliance offers the only moderate road for the mass of people who reject extremism."

Boundary changes appear to have made the seat less marginal than last time around, for under them a large and affluent area of the constituency has gone into Gower. Analysis suggests that had the last election been fought on the new boundaries Mr Williams would be defending a majority of 3,371 which would require a 7.7 per cent swing to enable the Conservatives to capture it.

Results at the 1979 election: A. Williams (Lab) 24,175; D. Mercer (C) 23,774; M. J. E. Ball (L) 3,484; G. Gwent (Pl Cymru) 1,012; Maj 401.

Mr Giles Radice, former Labour MP for Chesham-le-Street, will stand for the new constituency of North Durham. He defeated by 102 votes to 48 Mr David Watkins, the former Labour MP for Consett.

Mr John Ryan, former Labour MP for Blyth, has been selected for the new constituency of Blyth Valley.

Mr Paul Winner, aged 48, will be the Alliance candidate for Windsor and Maidenhead. Mr Kevin Barron, a miner, is Labour candidate for Rother Valley, which has been split. The sitting MP, Mr Peter Hardy, is to stand in the newly formed, Wentworth constituency.

Mr John McGuigan, aged 36, a full-time official with Nupe, the public employees' union, is Labour candidate for Conservative-held Newark constituency. Labour's previous candidate, Mr Will Back, a Leicester barrister, will stand for Sherwood.

Mr Ian Campbell, aged 47, a lecturer, is Labour's candidate for the new Clwyd, North-west.

Mr Roger Gale, aged 39, a television producer, was nominated yesterday as Conservative candidate for North Thanet. He defeated Mr Billy Rees-Davies, aged 47, by 207 votes to 163.

Mr Roger Gale, aged 35, a chiropodist, is the Conservative candidate for Stoke, North.

## Vote for a job, Nupe says

From Paul Routledge

Labour Editor, Scarborough

The trade unions' general election campaign opened in earnest yesterday when leaders of the National Union of Public Employees, Labour's fourth largest affiliate, appealed to their 700,000 members to vote Mrs Margaret Thatcher out of office.

In a mixed atmosphere of apprehension and anger, 800 delegates to NUPE's policy-making conference agreed, with only one dissenting voice, to endorse an executive statement that the Conservatives "have proved they are unfit to govern".

They did so after hearing a warning from Mrs Oliver Davies, the union's president, that if the Conservatives retained office there might be further industrial trouble over pay in the public services.

"This will not be just another election as far as we are concerned", she told delegates. "Our members will not be going to the polling booths simply to vote for the party of their choice. They will be going to the polls to vote Labour for a job or to vote Tory for the dole queue."

The executive statement pointed out that Labour's manifesto contained some "very important commitments" of specific interest to NUPE members. The party would mount an offensive against low pay, including discussions with the TUC on a statutory minimum wage.

It would oppose "contracting out" of public services to private enterprise and would increase real spending on the National Health Service and personal social services.

Accordingly, Nupe leaders urged their members to work actively in the constituencies to win a Labour administration committed to those aims. But the Nupe president expressed a fear, prevalent in the Labour movement, that the Prime Minister could be returned to power.

Mrs Davies said: "I have this to say to Mrs Thatcher and to Mr Fowler (Secretary of State for Social Services): Do not think for one moment that because we did not maintain our already inadequate living standards in 1982 we will lie down and accept poverty wages for ever more."

"If God forbid, we ever face a government like yours in a future year round we shall be even more determined than we were last year to stand up and fight for fair wages."

All the big guns were wheeled out on the first day of NUPE's conference to add their salvo in the political offensive.

Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, the union's general secretary, insisted that Mrs Thatcher's promise on the doorstep of 10 Downing Street after the last election, drawn from St Francis of Assisi, could now be stood on its head.

Where there was harmony, she had brought discord, where there was truth, she had brought error, where there was faith she had brought doubt, and where there was hope she had brought despair.

## Millan wins Glasgow selection

Mr Bruce Millan, beat Mr Andrew McMahon for the new seat of Glasgow, Gower, yesterday. Mr Millan has represented the former seat of Glasgow, Craigton, for 24 years.

Mr Bryan Davies, aged 43, secretary of the Parliamentary Labour Party, was last night chosen as the Labour candidate for the new Newport West constituency.

Mr Giles Radice, former Labour MP for Chesham-le-Street, will stand for the new constituency of North Durham. He defeated by 102 votes to 48 Mr David Watkins, the former Labour MP for Consett.

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## Country facing severe homes shortage

By Baron Phillips

Britain faces a severe housing shortage, which is leading to growing homelessness and overcrowding. Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless, says in an election briefing paper published today.

There is a shortage of 800,000 homes the organization says, and the problem is getting worse because insufficient new homes are being built. Shelter estimates that 300,000 new dwellings are needed each year for the 200,000 new households formed annually and to make some inroads into the backlog.

Over the past two years the number of private and council homes built has not kept pace with the formation of new households, Shelter points out.



## Sit-in by journalists fails to sway management of Stern

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

### Vogel support

The noon deadline set by Stern journalists for the management to withdraw the appointment of two editors passed yesterday and they continued the occupation of the magazine's Hamburg headquarters which began on Friday night.

They are protesting that they were not consulted about the nomination last week of Herr Peter Scholl-Latour and Herr Johannes Gross to succeed Herr Peter Koch and Herr Felix Schmidt, the editors who resigned when the Hitler Diaries scandal broke in Stern proved to be forgeries.

Meanwhile, the Stuttgart dealer in Nazi memorabilia suspected of forging the diaries has been arrested after surrendering to German police on the Bavarian border on Saturday, apparently returning from Austria.

Herr Konrad Kujau, alias Dr Konrad Fischer, who delivered the diaries to Herr Gerd Heidemann, the Stern reporter, said in a statement released by his lawyer that he had returned to defend himself against charges of fraud.

The shock waves of the Hitler Diaries scandal have continued to shake Stern and fascinate most Germans. In the tense and embittered atmosphere at the magazine's headquarters the journalists, who almost all condemned the publication of

Police have searched the flat of Herr Heidemann, dismissed last week by Stern, in connexion with the lawsuit the magazine has taken out against him for fraud. They also searched rooms he had rented in Hamburg where he kept his collection of Nazi documents, but would give no details of what they took away.

The return of Herr Kujau to Germany will be of vital importance in the preparation of possible charges of criminal fraud over the diaries. Herr Kujau, himself from East Germany, disappeared after the 60 volumes were exposed as forgeries and was said to have gone to Czechoslovakia.

Stuttgart police raided his shop on Friday and took away bags full of apparently valuable photographs, documents and works of art, some of which appeared to be forgeries.

In his statement Herr Kujau dismissed as "absurd" charges that he had forged the diaries himself. "I can neither read nor write old German script," he said. He also denied charges that he had received DM9m (£2.35m) from Herr Heidemann. He said that as he handed over the diaries in instalments, convinced that they were genuine. He had received altogether only DM2.5m. Of this, he had kept only DM300,000 for his own services as a courier and middleman.



Wrestlers and referees greeting Emperor Hirohito when he arrived at a Tokyo sumo hall yesterday. In one bout, champion Wakashimazu (centre) shoved his opponent out of the ring, scoring an eighth straight victory.

## Emirates' envoy not to FO liking

By Rodney Cowton

The Foreign Office is believed to have refused to accept the letter of credence of Mr Mohammed Mahdi Al-Tajer, the prospective Ambassador in London of the United Arab Emirates.

Mr Tajir, aged 51, a controversial and extremely wealthy businessman, was Ambassador in Britain for 10 years until his resignation last year. The Foreign Office was notified of his reappointment and given letters of credence last week. It is understood that the letters were returned to the Embassy last Friday, although the Foreign Office said yesterday it did not comment on communications between itself and an embassy.

Agreement is normally reached between two governments on a particular individual's acceptability as ambassador before letters of credence are presented.

It is thought that the letters were returned on the grounds that these procedures had been breached, though it is not clear whether this was the whole reason or whether it concealed a reluctance to accept the reappointment of Mr Tajir. It is reported that his return to the London Embassy has been resisted in some quarters in the Emirates.

While Ambassador, Mr Tajir was involved in a number of controversies, including being informally rebuffed in May 1979 for failing to attend the State opening of Parliament. This was seen as a snub for the Queen, although he maintained that he was prevented from attending by illness.

It was reported yesterday that officials from the Foreign Ministry of the UAE were in London investigating possible financial irregularities at the embassy, although no official confirmation of this was available and Mr Tajir was not available for comment.

Mr Tajir was born in Bahrain and educated for a time in Britain at Preston Grammar School. His first important appointment was as director of the Port and Customs Department in Bahrain.

## Assad holds on in Lebanon

From Robert Fisk, Rayak, Lebanon

As President Assad of Syria continued over the weekend to reject the newly agreed Israeli-Lebanese military withdrawal formula, Syrian Army engineers were busy constructing an extensive new series of earth fortifications, revetments and anti-tank ditches across the floor of the Bekaa Valley. On both sides of the highway south of Rayak, the Syrian Army has started several square miles of excavations into which radio communications vehicles and dozens of battle-tanks have already been driven.

Bright yellow bulldozers were yesterday pushing into the soft earth outside the village of Terbol and a clutch of antennae sprouted from a low, man-made hill to the west. Along the old Roman road towards Aanjar, newly arrived Palestinian guerrillas in brand-new Japanese-made lorries bearing Syrian registration plates drove southwards.

The Israeli forward positions lie more than 10 miles to the south, and it could just be that the Syrians are building a makeshift withdrawal line, a provisional communications and defensive network in case the Americans pull out a surprise and actually persuade President Assad to move his soldiers out of Lebanon.

But a few days ago Syrian officers told the local farmers to turn off the irrigation pumps around their fields, and the implication of this instruction

was not lost on the people of the Bekaa - tanks cannot fight in mud.

"Will the war come to Baalbek this year?" a bespectacled young man had asked us when we stopped further north. He brandished a copy of one of the Beirut morning newspapers. "They say that there has been a pro-Syrian revolt among the Palestinian guerrillas. The Syrians are warning that there will be another civil war here."

He pointed to a group of unshaven Palestinians driving past us, some of them carrying automatic weapons. "If there is a war here," he said, "we are going to get hurt because there are too many armies here." Twice in the past three days, Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization chairman, has paid night-time visits to the Bekaa, his first return to Lebanon since he was evacuated by sea from Beirut last summer. Officially, he spent his time inspecting the Yamouk Brigade of the Palestine Liberation Army, the PLO's regular military unit, but in Damascus the Syrians were claiming - discreetly, but with evident pleasure - that the Syrian guerrilla officers had the small unit of Iranian Revolutionary Guards whose banners still fly on the hills above Baalbek - are preparing for a war of attrition or an outright Israeli attack with ut any real political support from within Lebanon.

The PLO news agency did refer darkly yesterday to a "suspicious political campaign" being waged against the movement - presumably by Mr Arafat's more radical opponents

## Egypt backs Shultz deal

From John Holloway, Cairo

President Mubarak of Egypt has urged all Arab states to support the American-sponsored agreement between Israel and Lebanon, and indirectly accused Syria of trying to sabotage it.

His remarks, to a special session of Parliament in Cairo on Saturday, suggested a softening of Egypt's position and virtually recognized the Arab's inability to have any serious influence on US policy in the Middle East.

"Egypt stands with its full

weight behind the Lebanese people," Mr Mubarak said. The Lebanese had "the final say on everything relating to their soil, security and rights".

In fact, the Lebanese have anything but the final say. Although the agreement, which is due to be signed in the northern Israeli town of Natanya today, covers the withdrawal of the Israeli forces, Israel has said it will be implemented only when Syria, which is not a party to the accord, also pulls its forces out.

## King Husain has faith in Reagan

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

King Husain of Jordan has confirmed that he still believes in President Reagan's unquestionable good intentions and his resolve to get a Middle East peace settlement.

"Though our joint efforts have been thwarted for the time being, it should go without saying that our commitment to peace with dignity is paramount," the King said in a message here to a meeting of the National Association of Arab Americans on Saturday.

The message was conveyed by the King's brother, Crown Prince Hassan. King Husain observed that the Jordan-PLO dialogue on the question of Jordanian participation in any broadened Palestinian autonomy negotiations between Egypt, Israel and the United States had gradually lost its momentum.

He added: "My faith in the President's resolve and his unquestionable good intentions remains strong."

The recent visit of Mr George Shultz US Secretary of State, to the Middle East was a clear indication that President Reagan intended to persevere in spite of the difficulties encountered so far, the King stated.

Mr Shultz has also said that President Reagan is determined to continue his efforts to carry forward the Lebanon negotiations on the withdrawal of foreign forces from that country and the Middle East peace process.

King Husain said that President Reagan's September 1 Middle East peace initiative and the Arab League Summit for peace plan offered the broadest framework within which a just and lasting settlement must be found.

"I, for my part, welcomed the Reagan proposals from the very outset and wanted to see them evolve and develop," he said.

## Watergate burglar pardoned by President

WASHINGTON (Reuters) President Reagan has pardoned one Watergate burglar, but refused a similar application from two others convicted for their part in the 1972 break-in at Democratic Party headquarters.

Eugenio Rolando Martinez, aged 60, is the first convicted Watergate conspirator to be pardoned. He was jailed in 1973 and released on parole in 1974 when his sentence was reduced to time already spent in jail.

Mr Magruder was convicted of obstruction of justice, and Mr Martinez and Mr Hunt of burglary, conspiracy and wire-tapping.

## Disc operation for Karajan

Bonn-Herbert von Karajan, the chief conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, is reported to have undergone an operation on a spinal disc on Friday, Michael Binyon writes.

Herr von Karajan, aged 75, who was recently involved in a dispute with the orchestra he has conducted for more than 25 years, entered a clinic in Hannover under a false name, and the section of the clinic in which he is being treated has been closed off.

## Everest success

Katmandu (Reuters) - Two Americans and a Nepalese Sherpa yesterday reached the summit of Everest, a week after five climbers from the same German-American expedition scaled the mountain. A third team hopes to reach the summit tomorrow.

## China martyrs

Rome (AP) - The Pope declared blessed two Salsatian missionaries martyred in China in 1930, and said he hoped to strengthen the dialogue between the Vatican and China. More than 60 bishops have been ordained in China since 1958, but the Vatican does not recognize them.

## Royal visit



King Juan Carlos (above) and Queen Sofia of Spain began a seven-day visit to Brazil in the north-eastern city of Salvador, which has a large Spanish community. Diplomats in Brasilia said the royal visit was partly to show support for the political liberalisation programme sponsored by President Joao Figueiredo's Government.

## Rebels repelled

Managua (AP) - The Government claimed that its forces have dispersed 500 rebels who invaded north-eastern Nicaragua from Honduras, but sources in the armed forces said fighting continued on both the northern and southern fronts.

## CIA blamed

Havana (AFP) - Thirty-three people have been sentenced to prison terms for carrying out "numerous and continual" acts of sabotage with the support of the CIA, according to Señor Roberto Veiga, head of the Cuban workers' organization.

## Victims list

Lahore (AFP) - The Human Rights Society of Pakistan published a list of nine political prisoners who are said to have "died in jail due to torture during interrogation" since the military takeover led by General Zia L-Haq.

## Taiwan break

Taipei (AP) - Taiwan broke off diplomatic relations with Lesotho after the announcement in Peking that China and the African state had established diplomatic ties.

## Delhi blaze

Delhi (AFP) - Three people were killed and more than 30 injured in a fire which destroyed the Indian Oil Corporation's liquid petroleum gas plant in west Delhi.

## Scientists rethink on Etna

From John Earle, Rome

A team of scientists and technicians yesterday inspected the southern slopes of Mt Etna to consider more action after the partial failure of an attempt early on Saturday to divert the lava flow away from villages with explosives.

The attempt could be made with only 33 out of 50 explosives charges inserted in tubes into solidified lava which formed the bank of the stream, because the lower level of tubes was subjected to unexpectedly high temperatures from the mass of lava. In consequence, only the upper part of a 15-yard gap was blown away.

The incandescent lava, which flowed out along a man-made channel towards an old crater, had by yesterday become a 600-yard trickle and, according to those on the spot, was threatening to rejoin the main stream.

The inspecting team was reported to be against further use of explosives. Instead, they were said to be considering using bulldozers to widen the gap or to try to obstruct the main stream.

Though Etna's summit reaches 10,700 ft, the main lava outflow is from a crater at a little over 7,000 ft. "Operation Bang," as it was named by Signor Loris Fortuna, the Minister for Civil Defence, took place at about 6,500 ft. MOSCOW. Klyuchevskaya Sopka, a volcano in the Soviet Far East, has been erupting for more than two months, but is not posing any danger, according to Tass News Agency, Reuters reports.

## Libya frees West Germans in swap

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Eight West Germans, who have been in prison in Libya since April, have been released and returned yesterday afternoon to Frankfurt airport. Meanwhile, two Libyans who were held on charges of torturing fellow-Libyans in the Libyan People's Bureau last November have been expelled in what appears to be a concession to Libyan demands for a swap.

The eight Germans, who were detained on unspecified charges of spying, said on arrival that they had been well treated, and appeared to be in good health. Herr Jürgen Möllemann, State Secretary in the Foreign Ministry, flew to Libya last month to discuss their case with Major Jalloud, the Libyan deputy leader.

The exchange has caused considerable concern here in case it sets an unhealthy

precedent and exposes West Germany to blackmail by any country whose citizens are arrested here. A spokesman for the Young Liberals called on Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, to make sure the federal republic's principles of law were not sacrificed.

The two accused Libyans, Dr Mustapha Zaidi and Mr Abdul-Yamla, had already appeared in court and heard charges that they had threatened dissident Libyans with forcible return to Libya.

Last weekend Bonn also expelled a Libyan who was serving a sentence of life imprisonment for the murder of a former Libyan diplomat. He was sent back to Tripoli and exchanged for four Germans who had already spent many years in prison in Libya on various convictions.

## State work on the dole

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Spaniards on the dole may be required to work for the state during the period in which they collect unemployment compensation according to a ministerial order which became effective yesterday.

The order from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security published in the official state bulletin also incorporates other measures affecting employment

It said the unemployed "can be obliged to carry out tasks of social collaboration" during up to five months of the period in which they are receiving compensation. It added that any job assigned to an out-of-work person should "coincide with the physical and professional aptitudes of the unemployed worker". The order implements a decree issued last June by the previous administration.

## Indian backwater finds itself gripped by political fever

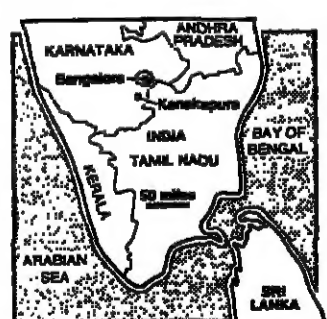
From Michael Hamlyn, Bangalore

Kanakapura has elections as San Francisco has earthquakes: occasionally it is devastated by one. The narrow streets of the little town have for weeks been rendered virtually impassable, and its conversations inaudible by competing processions, public address systems, bands, dancers and cheer leaders.

Triumphal arches of palm leaves shade the main street, fluttering with posters from competing candidates. Important visitors from Delhi arrived, addressed large imported crowds and departed. The idea that American hometown elections represent the ultimate in political razzmatazz needs revision.

Kanakapura (the name means town of gold, money or plenty, a plain misnomer) and its 200 or so surrounding hamlets were the centre of so much attraction because of a by-election yesterday to the state's legislative assembly in Bangalore, the garden city 20 miles away. But this was not an ordinary by-election.

Earlier this year Mrs Gandhi and her ruling Congress (I) Party received an unpleasant blow when their nearly traditional grip on the south was broken both here and in Andhra Pradesh and against all appar-



ent odds in Karnataka the Janata party was elected to power. It was the first time a non-Congress party formed the Government in the state. So unprepared were they, that the best nominee for Chief Minister had not even stood in the elections. He needed to win a seat in the Assembly, so the local member moved up to the second chamber.

But the Assembly is so finely balanced that the seat had to be won otherwise the party would lose control and Congress(I) would be back in again. So there was everything to fight for. This is the only state in the union controlled by Janata, the residue of the coalition which replaced Mrs Gandhi as the national Government after the emergency.

Mr Ramakrishna Hegde, the Chief Minister, put all he had



Mrs Gandhi: Fighting to regain state control.

got into the fight, and so did Congress. Although there were 13 candidates in all, the election was in effect a straight fight between Mr Hegde and Mrs Gandhi. Mrs Gandhi is not here, and her candidate was a little-known retired police inspector who had never run for public office before, but that scarcely seems to matter.

Mr Hegde, aged 56, soft-spoken and thoughtful, with a Yassir Arafat style of beard has evolved a new style of politics, well suited to India's love of simplicity and austerity. He tried to introduce value-based politics in Karnataka," he said.

Values have vanished from Indian politics, and the people grow cynical of politicians. "Mrs Gandhi has no scruples. For her the end is important and the means are not. She uses whatever means she has to use. This is just the opposite of what Maganma Gandhi preached. As a result, corruption has seeped into the system, both political and administrative corruption. But I think people like what I have been doing. There are signs of regaining faith in the system."

Mr Hegde's supporters drew attention to the conscious difference he drew between

his regime and that of his predecessor. Mr Gundu Rao, the Congress (I) Minister. He has ostentatiously not moved into the luxurious Chief Minister's residence that Mr Rao had built. He moved quickly to appoint commissioners as soon as a breath of an accusation of corruption escaped the opposition's lips.

His method of electioneering is also instructive. Mr Hegde toured the little villages of the constituency, each scarcely more than 200 inhabitants and perhaps a small temple. He drove with a small convoy of supporters through the brick red countryside, and walked the last hundred yards or so along the dusty earth roads. He had no police escort or outriders. A band or dancers often greeted him. A coconut was usually smashed at his feet to ward off the evil eye, and red dye painted on his forehead. A little festival often ensued as he was greeted with dishes of fruit.

Under a canopy of palm leaves decorated with mango leaves and the brilliant flame-coloured golmohan blossom, he would make a few remarks to the villagers - who very likely had never seen a Chief Minister before in their lives - generally telling them of the work his Government has done for water supplies. The drought here,

though bad, is nothing like as bad as in neighbouring Tamil Nadu, but water supplies are of crucial importance.

He sometimes draws attention in low conversational tones to the difference between his style of travel and that of his predecessor, who went about the state in a helicopter. "With the money he spent on helicopters he could have put a tap in every village," he told one crowd. Then he would on to the next through awaiting him down the road. The day before campaigning ceased, he visited 33 villages the inhabitants waiting for him until midnight in some of them.

His opponents in the Congress camp would have none of this man-of-the-people stance. "He is not a progressive he's a conservative!" Mr Karwa Lakappa, the member of Lok Sabha for the district, exclaimed. Adding for good measure: "And he's hand in glove with the Communist Party, Marxist. All the undemocratic forces and communal forces are working with him."

Mr Lakappa insisted that he would not be supported by the minorities. "Because of the secular character of our party and what we have done for women - the anti-dowry act, and so on - the majority of women are supporting our candidate."

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# US and Russia blame each other for slow pace of Geneva talks

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The chief American and Soviet negotiators in the talks on limiting intermediate-range nuclear missiles have returned to Geneva for their sixth session since the meetings started 18 months ago, each blaming lack of progress on the other side's obduracy.

Mr Paul Nitze, aged 76, said the interim proposal, regarded by the Americans as a first step towards the ultimate zero-option goal of no such missiles in Europe, made just before the negotiations adjourned at the end of March, opened an opportunity to find common ground.

"Unfortunately, the Soviets continue to impose unacceptable conditions upon such an agreement," he said. But any new proposals they made would be examined with an open mind.

His Soviet counterpart, Mr Yuri Kvitinski, aged 46, said that the American "interim option" was aimed at imposing

a unilateral reduction on the Soviet Union. He advocated the latest Andropov proposals as the means for radically reducing nuclear arms in Europe and maintaining approximate parity between the Soviet Union and Nato, both in delivery systems and in the number of warheads.

The negotiations resume on Tuesday, with the United States reportedly to be considering proposing a 300-warhead limit for each side. This would mean partial deployment of about half of the 572 of the new cruise and Pershing 2 missiles to counter the Soviet SS20s. Unless there is a positive outcome to this round, prospects are bleak for any progress in the parallel negotiations on strategic weapons which resume next month.

● **ATHENS:** Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, is sending letters to day to the leaders of the other five Balkan states, including

Turkey, inviting them to set in motion plans for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans.

He announced this initiative in the course of a large political rally in the northern Greek town of Komotini, near the frontiers with Turkey and Bulgaria.

He told crowds chanting "out with the death bases" that he was proposing to the other leaders a concrete procedure aimed at the elimination of nuclear weapons from the Balkan peninsula. It would begin with a summit meeting of experts within 1983, and culminate eventually in a summit conference of Balkan leaders.

"Our ambition is that the Balkans, once the powder-keg of Europe, should become a bastion of peace," he said.

The Prime Minister's call was echoed on Sunday by demonstrators for peace and nuclear disarmament who converged on Constitution Square.

The main march was from Marathon to Athens and was staged to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the assassination of Gregory Lambrakis, the left-wing deputy and leading peace campaigner, by right-wing extremists.

However, the peace movements of other left-wing parties in Greece failed to agree on a common demonstration, so yesterday's marches, attended by tens of thousands, were sponsored only by the pro-Soviet Greek Communist Party.

Mr Papandreu in his Komotini speech, while preaching nuclear disarmament, insisted that Greece needed to be militarily strong in view of the threat posed by Turkey.

## Man in the News

### Testing time for a cautious hawk

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

When you meet Mr Kenneth Adelman, President Reagan's new Arms Control Director, it is hard to understand why there was such a fuss over his appointment and why it took the Senate almost three months to approve his confirmation.

When he was nominated to succeed the urbane Mr Eugene Rostow as head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA), he had the reputation of being a hardliner on defence issues. Yet in conversation he emphasises the need for caution and flexibility when dealing with the Soviet Union.

During his disastrous initial Senate confirmation hearing, Mr Adelman, who is 36, appeared to be ignorant about the task he was taking on. He answered at least 20 times "I don't know" or "I hadn't thought about that" to questions relating directly to arms control issues.

His supporters put this down to "stage fright" and, after some intensive behind-the-scenes coaching, his performance improved a great deal during subsequent appearances. Now, although still not completely fluent in his subject, he at least seems more comfortable when talking about his allotted task.

He is clearly not entirely at ease with his new role. He speaks slowly, choosing his words with caution, and has an academic's tendency to do his thinking out loud (most of his career has been with universities and think-tanks). This means he sometimes says things he should not.

Mr Adelman's grasp of his subject will be tested when the intermediate-range missile talks resume in Geneva tomorrow. Although not involved in the day-to-day negotiations - these will continue to be handled by Mr Paul Nitze, who has led the US delegation since the talks began in December, 1981 - Mr Adelman is responsible for supervising the American positions at both the intermediate and strategic missile talks.

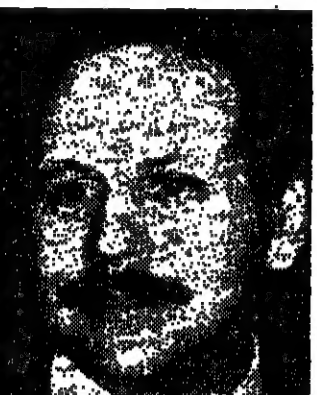
Mr Adelman owes his hawkish reputation largely to his opposition to the Salt 2 agreement negotiated by the Carter Administration but never ratified by the Senate. He wrote an article in an academic publication explaining why he was against it, and this was one of the pieces of evidence his opponents on the Senate foreign relations committee used against him.

In that article he not only criticized the lack of verification procedures built into Salt 2 but made the more sweeping criticism of arms control accords for failing to slow down the Soviet Union's military build-up.

This did not mean, he now explains, that he was opposed to arms control talks as such, as some of his Democratic opponents have alleged. But he felt the history of arms control in the past 15 years had been disappointing and called for a new approach.

As he sees it, previous US administrations have, for political reasons, been over anxious to achieve agreements with the Soviet Union at almost any cost, though such pacts did little to enhance American security. They have not really made the world a less dangerous place.

This is why he favours the Reagan policy of seeking "deep cuts" in the US and Soviet arsenals, rather than the approach favoured by many arms control specialists of chipping away at the edges of Soviet military might.



Mr Adelman: Not entirely at ease

## Pinochet's big state sell-off backfires

Immediately after the coup which overthrew the left-wing administration of President Salvador Allende in 1973, General Pinochet set less than an economic revolution. Using the theories espoused by Professor Milton Friedman and some bright young Chileans, the new president set about dismantling the various state controls. They had been blamed for a daunting inflation rate of 600 per cent and drastic food shortages.

Under the late President Allende and his predecessor, President Frei, the economy was run by the state. As long ago as 1939 the Corporación de Fomento (Corfo) had been established to foster the country's transformation into a modern industrial power.

By 1970 some 300 businesses were owned by Corfo and during President Allende's three years in power a further 100 or so companies were taken over by the central government.

In the field of overseas commerce, President Pinochet stood for opening the economy up to the competition of international trade.

Import tariffs totalling some 94 per cent under the previous administration were dismantled and replaced by customs duty of 10 per cent on all articles including food staples such as wheat and luxury goods such as whisky.

In addition, various incentives were introduced to encourage the setting up of foreign banks in Chile while local banks, which had been nationalized under the Allende Government, were returned to

private hands. Interest rates were determined by free market forces and restrictions on the free movement of capital overseas were completely abolished.

In 1976, Chile withdrew from the Andean Pact, one of "spokes" in the "wheel" of inter-governmental trade agreements provided in its state reform package.

Finally, agricultural reforms initiated by President Allende and his predecessor, President Eduardo Frei, came to an abrupt end under General Pinochet. About 30 per cent of Chile's agricultural land was returned to its original owners, 20 per cent was auctioned off to non-farming sectors and only 30 per cent remained in the hands of the small-scale farmers who had benefited from the reform programme.

Before 1973 the latter had been able to take advantage of special credit and technical assistance arrangements run by the state. But after the military

On May Day, during a similar demonstration, 10 people were injured and 100 arrested in clashes between protesters and assailants in civilian clothes, wielding clubs. Police did not intervene.

These incidents illustrate the growing sense of frustration felt by ordinary Chileans about the dramatically worsening economic and human rights situation. In the first of two articles, our foreign staff trace the background to the latest unrest.

Chile's economic crisis has not really felt, however, until after 1975 when reductions in customs tariffs began to bite. Gradually, demand for national products started to drop in the face of stiff competition.

Chilean industries began to fail apart. Businesses became importers and in some cases simply closed down their factories. Easy access to credit and a huge demand for imported goods led to more indebtedness by many Chileans. Savings were no longer invested; exports fell and imports rose.

Alarm bells finally rang for the administration in May 1981, when the sugar-refining company, Cera, became insolvent because of speculative manoeuvres by its owners. The company had contracted debts totalling more than \$300m and had twice used the same guarantees to back up borrowing. The insolvent company's large section of the country's banking system.

Ironically, the Government subsequently had to intervene by enacting new banking laws, forcing banks to stop owning assets which had benefited from extended loans.

Net: Coping with the Crisis

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## Kenya's big state sell-off backfires

Kenya's biggest political crisis for years continues here, with all three Sunday papers leading their front pages with reports of the latest developments.

President Daniel arap Moi told a public meeting a week ago that an unnamed foreign power was grooming someone of its choice to become president. Most Kenyans believe he was referring to Britain.

The British High Commissioner, Sir Leonard Allison, met President Moi on Friday to express concern at suggestions that Britain was trying to interfere in Kenyan politics. Their meeting has not been reported officially here, but both the *Sunday Nation* and the *Sunday Standard* make it their main story.

The *Sunday Times*, organ of the ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU), does not report Sir Leonard's meeting with President Moi, but reports a BBC interview with a Kenyan university lecturer, Mr. Shadrach Guto, now in exile in London, who speculated that the man President Moi has in mind is his Minister for Constitutional Affairs, Mr. Charles Njonjo, at present in Britain.

Several ministers and other leaders have issued statements urging President Moi to name the "traitor" and the country backing him. The Livestock Development Minister, Mr. Paul Nguni, even calls for the "traitor" to be seized, and alleges - without giving details - that he has received substantial sums of money from Israel and South Africa.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are due to visit Kenya in November. They were last here in 1952, when King George VI died and the Queen succeeded him while in Kenya. If the present crisis strains relations with Britain, which has close relations with Kenya and is this country's biggest trading partner and source of aid, it could mean a reconsideration of the forthcoming royal visit.

Back in Nairobi Mr Njonjo returned to Nairobi yesterday from London and went to church in a city suburb. He told parishioners to go home, sleep peacefully, and not waste time in talking "nonsense".

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## Peace movements seek referendum on Nato missiles

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

More than 1,500 participants in a West Berlin conference of peace movements from 25 countries joined hands on Saturday evening to form a chain stretching from the Polish military mission on the western edge of the city to the Portuguese consulate in the centre to symbolize their demands for a nuclear-free Europe from Poland to Portugal.

Their action came at the end of a six-day gathering, the second European nuclear disarmament convention, which called for non-violent blockades of military installations, close cooperation with trade unions and the holding of referendums to prevent the deployment of the Nato missiles in West Europe in the autumn.

The 3,000 participants, who included Monsignor Bruce Kent, General Secretary, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, of leading West German politicians from the Social Democratic and Green parties, organizers from the Bertzand Russell Peace Foundation, and women from the Greenham Common protest camp, said they did not now expect an acceptable solution at the Geneva arms talks. The only endorsement they would give would be for a continuation of talks beyond 1983 and scrapping of all plans for deployment of the missiles.

Meanwhile the peace movements in Europe, America, Japan and the Pacific would try to mobilize public opinion to make the deployment of new missiles politically impossible.

Herr Oskar Lafontaine, the Mayor of Saarbrücken, and a leading left-wing member of the Social Democratic Party, called for a general strike by German trade unions to bring pressure on the Government and stop the production of materials related to war.

His call was firmly rejected by the German Trades Union Council, which said it ruled out any strike against the legal, democratic decisions of those bodies constitutionally empowered to make them.

Herr Egon Bahr, the ADP defence expert, said his party would soon introduce a resolution in Parliament calling for an immediate halt to the arms race on both sides.

Speakers and organizers at the conference said they were satisfied with the result of their discussions and expert hearings, although the meetings were boycotted by all official peace groups in East Europe.

A third conference of peace movements will be held in Italy next year, when it is hoped the East Europeans will attend. In Berlin messages of support were read out that had been smuggled out by unofficial peace movements in the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

Herr Erich Hoecker, the East German leader, reacted quickly to the demonstration in East Berlin last week by five Green members of Parliament, who were arrested after unfurling banners calling for disarmament in East and West. In a surprisingly conciliatory message, Herr Hoecker, to whom the Greens had addressed a message, said he regretted it had not been possible to talk "to you and your friends." But he said both German states should take steps for disarmament in their respective alliances.

The Greens' action was warmly welcomed by the unofficial East German peace campaigners, who told the conference in a message that a number of activists, including seven members of the Evangelical church in Cottbus, had recently been arrested, and sentenced for the "reasonable" passing on of information.

Bonn has rejected an East German protest made at the weekend that unknown West German persons had crossed the border at Raum Bennecke, near Magdeburg, and "forcibly destroyed border security installations".

The West German mission in East Berlin protested against the reports of this put out by the official East German news agency.

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Kenya's biggest political crisis for years continues here, with all three Sunday papers leading their front pages with reports of the latest developments.

President Daniel arap Moi told a public meeting a week ago that an unnamed foreign power was grooming someone of its choice to become president. Most Kenyans believe he was referring to Britain.

The British High Commissioner, Sir Leonard Allison, met President Moi on Friday to express concern at suggestions that Britain was trying to interfere in Kenyan politics. Their meeting has not been reported officially here, but both the *Sunday Nation* and the *Sunday Standard* make it their main story.

The *Sunday Times*, organ of the ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU), does not report Sir Leonard's meeting with President Moi, but reports a BBC interview with a Kenyan university lecturer, Mr. Shadrach Guto, now in exile in London, who speculated that the man President Moi has in mind is his Minister for Constitutional Affairs, Mr. Charles Njonjo, at present in Britain.

Several ministers and other leaders have issued statements urging President Moi to name the "traitor" and the country backing him. The Livestock Development Minister, Mr. Paul Nguni, even calls for the "traitor" to be seized, and alleges - without giving details - that he has received substantial sums of money from Israel and South Africa.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are due to visit Kenya in November. They were last here in 1952, when King George VI died and the Queen succeeded him while in Kenya. If the present crisis strains relations with Britain, which has close relations with Kenya and is this country's biggest trading partner and source of aid, it could mean a reconsideration of the forthcoming royal visit.

Back in Nairobi Mr Njonjo returned to Nairobi yesterday from London and went to church in a city suburb. He told parishioners to go home, sleep peacefully, and not waste time in talking "nonsense".

Net: Coping with the Crisis

Chilean industries began to fail apart. Businesses became importers and in some cases simply closed down their factories. Easy access to credit and a huge demand for imported goods led to more indebtedness by many Chileans. Savings were no longer invested; exports fell and imports rose.

Alarm bells finally rang for the administration in May 1981, when the sugar-refining company, Cera, became insolvent because of speculative manoeuvres by its owners. The company had contracted debts totalling more than \$300m and had twice used the same guarantees to back up borrowing. The insolvent company's large section of the country's banking system.

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Net: Coping with the Crisis

## Russia reveals its letters from America

Moscow (AP) - A Soviet newspaper yesterday said the nuclear freeze movement in the United States was growing and it published letters of concern written by "ordinary Americans" to Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader.

In a general reply to the letter writers, he said the Soviet Union's position is "not to start an arms race in a place where it did not exist and to stop it where it exists now".

The letters and Mr Andropov's reply were published in *Komsomolskaya Pravda*. The paper quoted from one letter which, it said, was written by Joy Copeland, of Fairfax, Virginia, who accused President Reagan of pursuing increased defence spending on behalf of friends in the arms industry. The writer said she is a civilian, who has been 12 years with the Air Force, including posts at the Pentagon.

"This letter is not an attempt at state treason," she wrote. "I like my country very much... Mr Andropov, I do feel you are right and Mr Reagan is not. Do list me among those who have learnt in the recent period of time not to trust him (Reagan) and his Administration."

The Soviet press has on several occasions published letters it said Americans wrote to Mr Andropov, including a well-publicized one from 10-year-old Samantha Smith of Manchester, Maine. Mr Andropov personally replied to her.

Soviet commentators yesterday reiterated demands that British and French nuclear missiles be counted in the arms reduction talks which resume tomorrow in Geneva.



Close marking: Pele, the Brazilian football star, with his wife at the Cannes film festival.

## Jailing of editor alarms Hongkong-Chinese

From David Bonavia, Peking

The sentencing of a left-wing Hongkong editor to 10 years' imprisonment here for espionage is likely to cause worries in Hongkong about the status of its Chinese residents when they travel on the mainland, or if the territory reverts to Chinese sovereignty.

Mr Lo Chen-hsun, editor of the Chinese-language pro-Peking *New Evening Post*, has been under arrest here for a year, it was disclosed yesterday. His disappearance while on a visit last year caused a sensation in Hongkong left-wing circles.

Mr Lo, who is believed to have travelled on a passport issued by the People's Republic of China, is not evidently subject to protection by the British Government on the grounds of his Hongkong residence.

He was accused of passing important political, diplomatic and military secrets to American agents in Hongkong and being paid regularly for them, and is said to have pleaded guilty.

The naming of the United

States is seen as a sign of its deteriorating relations with China over various contentious issues, especially favourable American treatment of Taiwan. The case has disturbing implications for anyone - Chinese or foreign - who attempts to follow the affairs of this country intelligently.

Journalists routinely exchange views and gossip with people they know or suspect to be intelligence agents, including diplomats and military attaches of their own embassies. To receive payment for another matter, but it is an interesting legal point whether a payment accepted in Hongkong can be considered evidence of a crime in the People's Republic.

The nationality and protection of the more than five million Chinese residents of Hongkong is an extremely complex subject because only a small number have all the rights of citizenship of the United Kingdom. Most have only a vague claim to British protection, or none at all when they travel overseas or in China.

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## Bolshoi dancers find their feet in Wiesbaden

From Our Correspondent, Bonn

The Bolshoi Ballet Company opened its long-awaited fortnight's tour of West Germany with a glittering performance in Wiesbaden of Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*, which was received with tumultuous applause and high critical praise for some of the dancers.

The opening performance

in the famous Hesse State Theatre - itself reminiscent of the Bolshoi Theatre - was held



THE ARTS

Television  
National  
colours

"A man couldn't ask for a prettier day", says John Brown on the gallows, upright as a Saturn rocket before the hangman sends him in who-knows-what direction. So Sterling Hayden, for it really was he, ended a cameo part, doubtfully as his name suggests, in *The Blue and the Gray*, which began last night on BBC1. He departed early on, leaving us to face most of the five hours and five minutes of this Civil War saga, which continues tonight and concludes tomorrow.

To be fair, this one began well. The war is to be seen through the eyes of the artist John Geyser, born in Virginia but confirmed in his anti-slavery views when slave-hunters hang his black friend for sheltering runaways.

When the war starts, his brothers are on the Southern side while he journeys with the North. He has met and sketched Abraham Lincoln, recognizable, despite the built-up nose, as our old, grave friend Gregory Peck—especially grave on this occasion, maybe because that nose is uncomfortable.

Geyser, attractively and earnestly played by John Hammond, is present at the first battle of Bull Run. It is watched by senators and their ladies from Washington but their picnic is snarled up in the ensuing rout.

All is not lost here for Geyser, however, for he meets a senator's daughter, Kathy Reynolds (Kathleen Beller), in the most trying conditions and starts the road to romance by slapping her across the face to stifle her hysterics. He has also made a friend of Jonas Steele (Stacy Keach), the President's bodyguard, a mysterious man given to prophetic dreams, one of which almost stops him proposing to Geyser's pretty cousin thereby closing off a promising sub-plot.

But *The Blue and the Gray* is entered into by everybody with great gusto, as befits such a sad national remembrance. With more than 2,000 participants it certainly does have a cast too numerous to mention, but everything is well handled by the director Andrew V. McLaglen. If the eyes do not take it all in at once, the videos surely will.

Dennis Hackett

Opera

Not a trace of pomposity

Die Meistersinger  
Covent Garden

Wagner's humane comedy returned to Covent Garden on Saturday in a revival that is better than ripe: it is very much alive. In the pit Sir Colin Davis bypasses traditional wisdom and solemnity in favour of a frank response to the music, a spring attack rather than an autumn remembering. The accompaniment to Sachs's third act monologue, for instance, realizes all the sounds of conflict as well as the sweetness, and the pagantry at the end is hearteningly free of pomposity. Even the overture has more of

passionate sword-thrust than stately procession about it.

The principal singers are mostly those who worked with Sir Colin on the last revival a year ago. Hans Sotin as Sachs falls in with his conductor in avoiding portentousness: this is no philosopher cobbler but a simple artisan, who sings in a manner-of-fact style and compensates for possible shallowness with the dignity and beauty of his tone. Among the other Meistersingers, Gwynne Howell is a deep, still, admirable Pogner, and John Gibbs makes an effective new Kothner. The one sadness is that these performances bring us the last of Sir Geraint Evans's mean but acutely lovable Beckmesser. On the side of youth and

love, Lucia Popp is again a radiant Eva, of unaffected pure sound and long phrases of a wholly natural elegance. I am afraid one hears the quietest very much as an accompanied aria for her, despite the positive contributions of the others. Among them is Robert Tear's exciting and vocally daring David, a performance to crown a season of remarkable versatility and success for him.

Robert Ilosfalvy, who has arrived at Wagner's more lyrical heroes after three decades on the operatic stage, contributes a less than wonderful Walther, but one cannot grumble when everywhere else there is such benignity.

Paul Griffiths



Lucia Popp: radiant and naturally elegant

Cannes Film Festival

Irresistible urge to scandalize

A Cannes favourite for a quarter of a century, the Italian director Marco Ferreri says of his new film, *Storia di Piersa*, that "it is up to the spectator to build up his own story with the material I have assembled"—which might seem a rather high-handed approach, particularly since the material provided is so largely incoherent. The film is not as grossly offensive as *La Grande Bouffe*, *L'ultima donna* or *Tales of Ordinary Madness*, though Ferreri cannot ever resist the urge to scandalize (he touches the nadir of pornography with a scene in which Isabelle Huppert raises her skirt to reveal—thanks to the magic of montage—some other lady's public parts).

The film is based on Piersa Degli Esposto's memoirs of

family life, with an incorrigibly promiscuous mother and a devoted if somewhat abstracted communist father, both of whom she loved equally and incestuously. The fact that the multinational, all-star family is composed of Huppert, Hanna Schygulla and Marcello Mastroianni does not enhance belief, any more than Ferreri's obvious delight in the scandalous bits encourages confidence in his claims that this ragged slice of life is all about man's destiny.

Mrinal Sen's *The Case is Closed* is a reassuring contrast. It has none of the gloss of Ferreri, but its credibility lies precisely in its rough, indignant urgency. Sen brings us closer than any other film-maker to the daily life of his country.

His new film investigates a small Calcutta incident. A 12-year-old boy—one of ten million infant employed—who works as a domestic servant for a middle-class couple, dies suddenly one night. The cause seems to be carbon monoxide poisoning caused by sleeping in an unventilated kitchen. The consequent investigations reveal more about the fears and guilt of the middle-class employers, however, than about the physical causes of the accident. The ultimate message of this quietly unrelenting film, with its constant turmoil of faces, accusing and accused, is that the greatest of social crimes is indifference.

David Robinson

Dance

Young experience

Swan Lake  
Covent Garden

Three further casts have followed Samsova and Ashmore into the leads in Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet's *Swan Lake*, but only one of them really brought the production to life. That was when Margaret Barbieri played Odette and Odile, with Desmond Kelly as Siegfried and a bonus in Alain Dubreuil's Rothbart, as vivid and sinister as something out of *Star Wars*.

Barbieri not only dances the ballerina role more strongly than the other contestants, she gives the part more emotion and character too: a very gentle heroine in the lakeside scenes, a dangerously seductive double in the ballroom. Kelly acts Siegfried with conviction and partners magnificently.

One advantage Barbieri has over Marion Tait and Sheryl Kennedy is that she had her first taste of ballerina roles while still a teenager, and, although Royal Ballet policies then enforced a cruel hiatus, the early experience counts. It is difficult to give a really good dancer responsibilities too soon, and easy to leave it too late. Tait and Kennedy both dance with care and understanding, but the theatrical magic is not there.

This production is likely to come into its own when the management summons up courage to put some of the really young dancers into the leads.

Concerts

RLPO/Handley  
Philharmonic Hall,  
Liverpool/Radio 3

Music which falls easily upon the ear is not necessarily by definition either good or bad. A work's status is determined merely by its power to set in motion the coils of the imagination and the intellect. If there was an outwardly undemanding piece which failed in the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra's concert on Saturday it was not William Mathias's Second Symphony, which received a brilliant world premiere under Vernon Handley, forming the climax of this year's Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Society's contemporary composer seminar.

Mathias has valuable things to say, even if his manner is sometimes a little garrulous. True, his occasional pieces, like the setting of Psalm 67 now known universally as the "Royal Wedding Anthem", and the Investiture Anniversary Fanfare, both of which we heard in performances of brass resplendence, have no profundities to utter. Indeed there is something almost wicked about their jaunty, a Walton-like sparkle in the eye.

The new symphony, however, like Walton's First, has deeper aspirations. It is subtitled *Summer Music*, although its chief atmospheric concern is predictably with things Celtic. "Aestive regis" (summer regis) the first movement, explores rather than fully develops two main ideas. In

spite of Mathias's effusive manner the effect achieved here is a magical one of solid granite cliffs, of primeval and frantic Dionysian rites and of mystery and remoteness.

The second movement is prefaced by a line translated from the sixteenth-century Welsh poet Taliesin, "My original country is the region of the summer stars". With the incantations of the woodwind and the static harmonies there are echoes here of Messiaen; although Mathias cannot resist building to a huge and brassy climax, thereby spoiling his spiritual and cosmological allusion. But the finale, exultantly reflecting the closing words of Dylan Thomas's prologue to the collected poems, reaffirms a conviction which was heard to be lamentably lacking in Delius's dull response to Walt Whitman's ecstatic *Sea Drift*, despite the superlative singing of Peter Knapp and the Liverpool Philharmonic Chorus.

Stephen Pettitt

EBF/Gönnenwein  
Festival Hall

A beautifully interlocked Bach programme to celebrate the twenty-first English Bach Festival: the Fourth Suite, the Christmas Cantata which borrows its opening movement and the E flat *Magnificat* from which Bach took a duet for the cantata. This *Magnificat*, with its four lightweight interpretations, does not have the

Theatre

The Great Eric  
Ackroyd Disaster  
Coliseum, Oldham

"Welcome to North" says the cloth-capped narrator, addressing an audience of approximately 500 locals and one. Almost at once however he is upstaged by the world-famous smoke of Grindlay's Smokeworks, belching in from the wings, descending in murky drapes from the flies and sending a shower of begrimed pigeon corpses thudding at his feet.

Feeding happily on "soot and chips" and dusting their babies like furniture, the people of Badchester are extremely proud of their smoke which Grindlay's exist specially to produce. All this is good bitter hilarity up in these parts, but only Bill Tidy, whose first play this is, could have devised the Spriggs Trophy for industrial coughing, coughed for at Wembley and won by Badchester for 93 successive years.

Devotees of the "Cloggies" in *Private Eye* will find the Badchester coughers no disappointment in Pat Trueman's production. Their angry little faces (one with the characteristic Bill Tidy spectacles) are much closer to the cartoonist's style than Tom Courtenay's Andy Capp was. Especially champion smokeblower Eric (John McArdle), who turns aside momentarily from making Ackroyd's famous Spotted Number 12 to boast to the audience, and releases a burst of

fresh air on the unprotected town. Instantly the old asphyxiate, the coughers' lungs are wrecked and public indignation drives Eric to exile in the most appalling place they can think of.

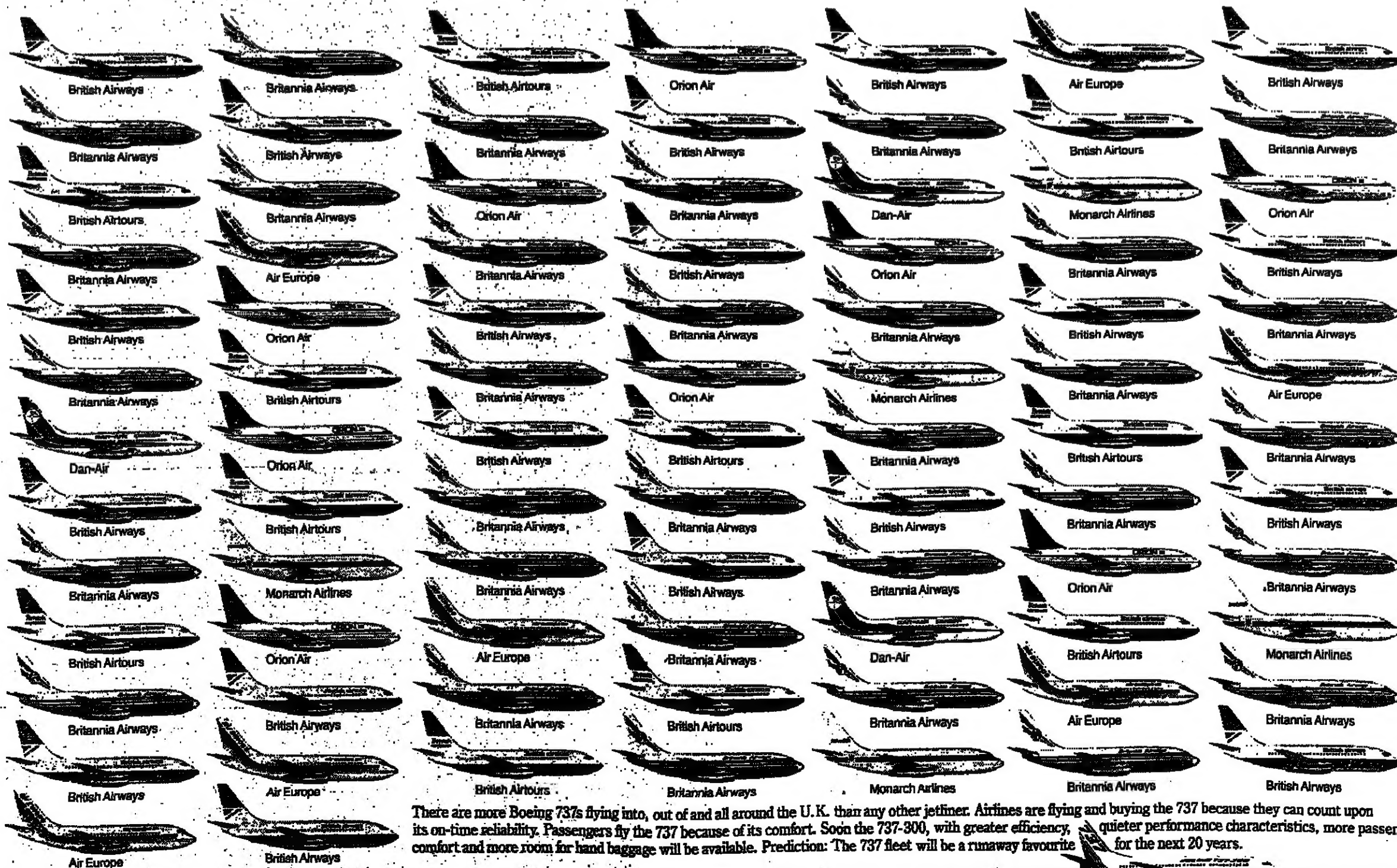
London is kind, however. In no time he moves in with the red-wigged miniskirted Nellie (Barbara Rosenblat) whose "ample acreage" won her the Golden-Hearted Whore of the Year Trophy in 1975, has his own chat show and wears his filthy old mar to a Royal Garden Party where the Queen (Elizabeth Kelly) addresses him graciously and is rewarded with a piece of cold tripe. Only a stress-induced addiction to Soapo (a remarkable washing-up liquid running at 97 degrees proof) prevents his being elected Prime Minister as "a shining example of northern grit". But rest assured that we do get to Wembley and that the male voice choirs from nearby Rossendale and Radcliffe have the time of their lives competitively coughing "Yellow Submarine" and the Hebrews Chorus from *Nabucco*.

Some episodes are flat or poorly motivated and this plot still has infinite untapped possibilities. Brian Jacques's songs, though enjoyable and musical, are too leisurely and their brass quartet scoring drowns the voices. But they still have a hit here. And the theatre shop surely ought to sell bottled Grindlay's smoke to take home. How else can I breathe in Kensington?

Anthony Masters

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**JUNE 83** Behind every would-be Prime Minister is a would-be Kitchen Cabinet. This week The Times looks at the campaign leaders and their advisers. First, Peter Stothard on Mrs Thatcher's team

## Off to work they go

To close observers of Downing Street life one of the first signs of a summer election came in February with the news that a certain Alison Ward had been asked not to arrange her holidays for June. The object of this attention was at that time not even working for the Prime Minister. She had been a forceful constituency secretary for Mrs Thatcher in the late 1960s and early 1970s. She had left to become secretary to Sir John Clark at Plessey and to Tory Party Treasurer Alistair McAlpine. She was not expecting to return to the political front line.

The Prime Minister, however, had other ideas. Her concern was that her most trusted personal assistant, Caroline Stevens, had a baby in the offing and a candidate for a husband, former Number Ten political secretary Richard Ryder, who would need a candidate's wife to help with flesh-peddling around the constituency. Alison Ward was first choice to stand by for election tour duty. She quickly agreed and an early ripple of speculation was launched to well-informed MPs and would-be MPs - also to all the many others who felt that they too should play a part in the backroom battle to elect their leader.

From typists to speechwriters, from fact-gatherers to muck-spreaders, the team that will guide Mrs Thatcher's personal path to the poll on June 9 is now almost complete. As we will show in this series over the next two days, the rival party leaders have very different attitudes to advisers and the advice that they give. But there are important similarities, too. Nothing is more dangerous in a short campaign than the unexpected disaster that can come from the tiniest of causes. If the campaign teams can simply keep their bosses off the banana skins they will more than earn their keep. And if that means having some of the highest-qualified handbag-holders and travel agents in history, no price will be too high - at least for the Tories.

Perhaps the most famous of the high-earning Thatcher men is set to arrive in London tomorrow. If Alison Ward could be made ready for the campaign in comparative secrecy, Gordon Reece, the flamboyant public relations man who masterminded Mrs Thatcher's image in 1979, could not. It is said that the Prime Minister deliberately asked him to stay in the United States (where he has been for several years working for the industrialist and art collector Armand Ham-

mer) until the announcement of the election had been made. As one colleague put it: "Gordon had only to get within a hundred miles of Land's End for poll fever to become an epidemic."

So not until Wednesday does Reece rejoin a team which at the moment looks roughly as follows. Among what becomes a virtual personal staff will be her parliamentary private secretary Ian Gow and a party vice chairman, Michael Spicer, Sir Ronald Miller and Ferdinand Mount as speechwriters; David Wolfson, her chief of staff; Stephen Sherbourne who will conduct her breakfast briefing, John Whittingdale, head of the political section in the research department, who will provide up-to-date facts and figures on tour and the highly experienced party officer, Roger Boaden, who for the fifth time will be organizing a Tory leader's tour logistics.

On the surface, both the names of the advisers and their strategy might appear simple enough. The view is widely held within the Tory Party that the policy is clear, the opinion polls massively and firmly in their favour, the opposition in disarray and that the job for Mrs Thatcher's team is little more than to steer a straight course to victory. But as seen from inside the Thatcher camp, it does not look that way at all.

Today - which in the militaristic terminology employed by Roger Boaden and his men is known as "D-day minus 24" - the focus of uncertainty is the arrival of Gordon Reece. To paraphrase the words of an earlier Tory Prime Minister, he may not terrify the opposition parties but he certainly frightens his own side. The late entrance of last time's hero has in a curious way, thrown up all sorts of doubts about this campaign, how different it is from 1979, how different the country is, how different she is. As one senior participant put it last week: "Will Gordon realize how much has changed, how electing a prime minister differs from electing an opposition leader, how the old battles don't need to be fought all over again?"

It is reluctantly accepted amongst the current advisers that Reece is a man in whom she has complete personal trust. Although no fan of his Ronnie Corbett looks and high



lifestyle, the fine champagnes and the big cigars, she associates his judgement with her victory. As another close observer puts it: "If Labour narrows the gap (as it surely must), and if the Alliance looks threatening (which it must on at least one day) Gordon Reece could rock what is a carefully prepared boat."

A Tory critic put it more crudely: "There is so much more at stake for Thatcher's people now. There is no one to equal her; they are not so much advisers in a common cause as aides waiting for patronage. They are worried that when the going gets rough Gordon may take away their rewards for four years' service. And because of the ideological purges, there is hardly anyone there who has fought an election at this level. It's like an Isthmian league side with one world class player."

The first official meeting in the Prime Minister's electioneering day will be with her party chairman, Cecil Parkinson, and the 37-year-old economist and political adviser, Stephen Sherbourne who on Friday left - possibly for ever - his publicly paid job in Patrick Jenkin's office at the Department of Industry. Sherbourne is one of the most experienced survivors in a Research Department class that was highly regarded under Edward Heath, but has been the object of downgrading and suspicion by Mrs

Thatcher. He and Parkinson will brief her on issues that have arisen overnight and points that are likely to come up at the 9.30 am press conference. Anthony S. Inskip, former Now! editor, head of press and publicity, also be in attendance.

If she is travelling to an engagement out of London, this job of continuous filing of opposition statements and the finding of facts and figures with which to counter them, passes to John Whittingdale, the recently appointed head of the Research Department's political section. Whittingdale is a surprise appointment, a 23-year-old Wykehamist known to his friends alternatively as "Mole" or "Bat". He joined the party five years ago as a "library boy", collecting cuttings and politically useful information for the Research Department. Counter to the old departmental trend he has impeccable "dry" economic credentials.

The choice of this very young man to travel with the Prime Minister in such a position has already raised a few eyebrows. To critics it underlines still further the cheapskate back-up which the Research Department can now provide.

Some of the biggest arguments are about where the Prime Minister goes and what she does when she gets there. It is already clear that there are to be fewer overnight stops than in 1979,

"less crashing around in ghastly airport hotels" as one erstwhile sufferer put it. Her programme over the past few months has been carefully planned so that in the event of a short campaign she would not have to return to every major city. The choice of sites for key rallies is a bit like choosing grounds for test matches. Certain ones are inevitable but others need not be taken up every time. Manchester, Birmingham and Cardiff and Glasgow are essential. Leeds may not get another turn. There is a strong strain of advice from Parkinson and the party bureaucracy that in the closing days of the campaign - from D-day minus 4 - she should play to her strength - in the south-east - and not attempt a barnstorming assault on the enemy retdoubt. But such decisions may be overturned several times before the final choice has to be made. A Prime Minister even has a perfect security cover for late changes in itinerary.

Security considerations also affect the locations and frequency of the "walkabouts" at which Mrs Thatcher so excelled in 1979. They may be fewer of these at the beginning of the campaign this time - and Parkinson's team are making plans for them to avoid confined spaces such as

shopping arcades which give too great an opportunity to organized opposition.

As for the choice of transport, Mrs Thatcher has a well-known aversion to trains. She has also turned down a benefactor's offer of a McDonnell Douglas aircraft for the campaign on the grounds that it would not be right for her to travel in a non-British plane. The services of Sir Hector Laing's United Biscuits' aircraft are likely to be called upon again. And in charge of implementing the chosen itinerary will be the indefatigable Boaden who first did the job for Edward Heath 13 years ago and who not even the most jealous onlooker could say was the wrong man for the task ahead.

No one has the absolute job of chief of the Prime Minister's touring party. The title of joint major domo on the political side goes to a cox-and-box partnership between Ian Gow, Mrs Thatcher's Parliamentary Private Secretary and Michael Spicer, economist, party vice-chairman, and the man responsible for wielding the Parkinson axe to cut staff costs inside Central Office. Both have seats that require little tending - let alone fighting - Gow amongst the pensioners of Eastbourne and Spicer amongst the Worcestershire fruitfarmers. Gow looks like a stern Victorian solicitor with bald pate, waistcoat and watch chain and is much happier in green baize corridors than drafty provincial halls. Spicer is a tough-minded economist who - excepting an unfortunate venture into political fiction writing - has a much better record in the art of being most things to most men. Each plans to be with the Prime Minister about half the time.

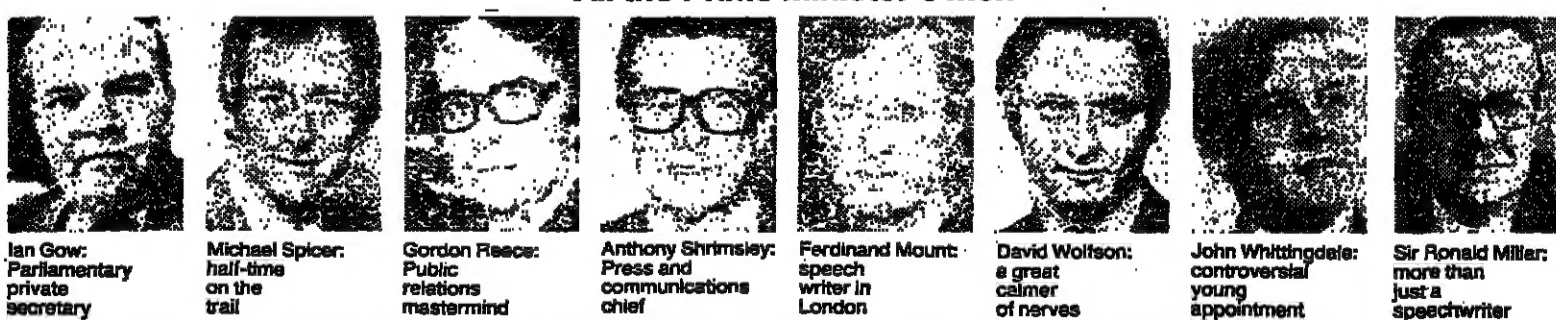
Spicer has some reputation as a cajoler and calmer of political women - having cut his teeth as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Sally Oppenheim. The doyen of this art, however - at least according to legend - is David Wolfson, who for the past four years has been Mrs Thatcher's chief of staff in Downing Street. Facts about his exact role are exceedingly hard to come by. When he turned up in Jerusalem earlier this year as a special emissary to Mr Begin, it was the first firm fact about his job in four years. Nonetheless he is apparently a brilliant soother of the prime ministerial brow. Along with his wife Sue who will help with Mrs Thatcher's clothes, he is likely to be with her throughout.

Along the campaign trail there are, of course, speeches to be written and amended in the light of changing tactics and events. Six main texts are likely to be prepared in advance - each on a central issue - so far including nuclear disarmament, unemployment and social services. Ferdinand Mount, the head of the Downing Street Policy Unit, seems likely to stay in London to coordinate these. Sir Ronald Miller, the playwright and famous phrase maker will travel with her to suit that night's text to the precise effect it is desired to achieve.

The man who gave the country "U-turn if you like, the lady's not for turning" no doubt has some other gems in his typewriter. But Miller is much more than an embroiderer of party-back prose. He has a close personal rapport with her and, if anyone in the team can stand before her and say that her performances are off beam or below par, it is he. Miller is also likely to have an important hand in the crucial last party political broadcast. He is a close associate of Gordon Reece and, if the campaign ever risks sinking into the "Steady as you go" complacency that critics observers fear, these two "veterans", as Cecil Parkinson calls them, will be the men most likely to pull the act out of the doldrums.

Later this week the Thatcher circus leaves town - in all its glitter and nervousness. In what is hoped will be the last piece of pre-election bad-touring, visitors to Conservative Central Office last Wednesday had to step over piles of old carpet which, thanks to an anonymous benefactor was being turned out in favour of a splendid blue-and-cream diamond patterned replacement. "Just in time for Maggie's victory celebration," suggested a journalist to one of many harassed officials. "Someone's just said it's for Gordon Reece", came the reply.

### All the Prime Minister's men



Ian Gow: Parliamentary private secretary. Michael Spicer: half-time on the trail. Gordon Reece: Public relations mastermind. Anthony S. Inskip: Press and communications chief. Ferdinand Mount: speech writer in London. David Wolfson: a great calmer of nerves. John Whittingdale: controversial young appointment. Sir Ronald Miller: more than just a speechwriter.

## Yesterday in Parliament

### MOREOVER... Miles Rington

Note: this is believed to be the first time a newspaper has ever printed a *Yesterday in Parliament* column on a Monday.

Business commenced at 11.18. Those present included the Cleaner of the House, the Deputy Cleaner, the Gentleman Polisher and the Bag Boy.

The Cleaner of the House said she wished to draw the House's attention to the mess left behind by the members of Parliament. She had worked in some untidy offices in her day, notably in the newspaper industry, but she had never seen anything like the rubbish left behind by the elected representatives of the House of Commons. If this was the way they treated the Chamber, she wanted to know, then how did they look after the country?

The Deputy Cleaner agreed and said that the amount of empty wrappers reminded her of Hampstead Heath after a Bank Holiday. She said that something should be done about it. For instance, she had just found a champagne bottle under a seat.

The Gentlemen Polisher wanted to know if there was anything left in it.

Deputy Cleaner: "No."

The Cleaner of the House said the cleanest place she had ever worked at was a lost property office in a big station. The people who worked there knew that if they ever left anything lying around, it would only be handed in to them.

The Deputy Cleaner showed the House a file she had just found and revealed that it was marked "Highly Confidential". She accused the Government of acting in a manner prejudicial to the national interest. She added that she also blamed the Opposition, the Alliance and that messy man from Northern Ireland whose name she could never remember, the one who left all the Guinness bottles. She wanted to know what she ought to do with the confidential file.

Gentleman Polisher: "Is there anything in it?"

Deputy Cleaner (after a pause): "Sandwiches." (Laughter.)

The Bag Boy, in his maiden speech in the House, asked where the Queen sat when she made her speech.

Deputy Cleaner: "Over there."

Cleaner of the House: "The

decision of Mrs Thatcher to hold a general election is certainly a good one. It gives us of the Parliamentary workforce a bit of time to clear up before the next batch of elected rogues come pouring in." She went on to say that she hoped Mrs Thatcher would be re-elected, as she liked a woman's touch about the House.

The Deputy Cleaner disagreed, saying that it didn't matter who got in. They were all the same, they all made a mess of things.

The Gentleman Polisher said she showed a lot of cynicism for one so young.

Deputy Cleaner: "Get you, Brasso fingers."

The Bag Boy (sitting where the Queen sat) "My Government intends to bring in savage legislation to prevent MPs from leaving litter around. Any MP found dropping rubbish will be fined £1,000 and have his nose rubbed in it. I also intend to raise the wages of the Westminster Bag Boy to £50,000 a year and have him created Lord Waste Paper of Basket."

The Gentleman Polisher ruled these remarks out of order, saying that they showed

disrespect to the House and the Royal Family. He gave him a clip round the earlobe.

The Deputy Cleaner said she would give a lot to know which one of them stuck chewing gum under his seat.

Gentleman Polisher: "What flavour?"

The Cleaner of the House said that Old Spit and Polish seemed to have an obsession with food and drink.

The Gentleman Polisher said he was sorry, but it must be nostalgia for the old place. He had until recently been an MP himself, but had failed to win re-election in his constituency and had fallen on evil days, now being reduced to menial tasks about Westminster. He produced a bottle from his pocket and asked if anyone wanted a dram.

The Cleaner said no, personally, but she was dying for a bag and a cup of tea. She proposed that the business of the House be adjourned for 15 minutes while refreshment was taken.

The result of the voting on this motion was three for, one against and one abstention, the Bag Boy being now asleep in the place where the Queen sat. The House rose at 11.43, the Bag Boy being removed by the ear by the Gentleman Polisher.

### TOMORROW

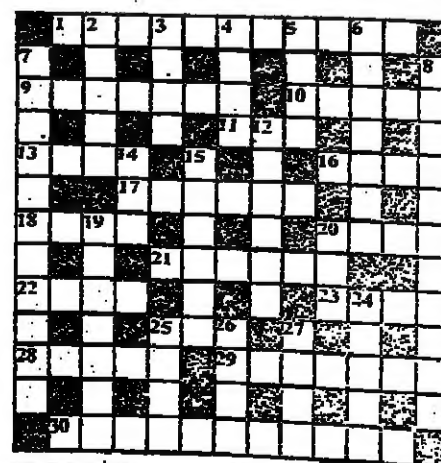
Nicholas Wapshott looks at the men around Michael Foot as the Labour Party struggles to arrange its affairs for an effective election fight

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 60)

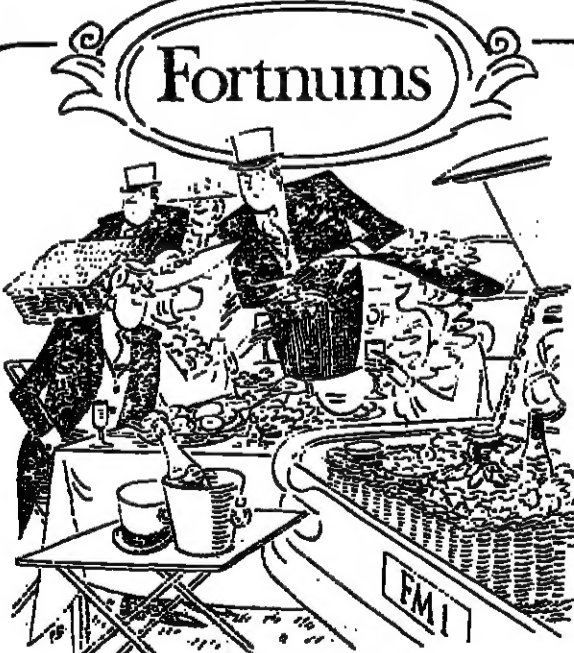
- ACROSS  
1 Cost label (5,6)  
9 Information seller (7)  
10 Fashion (5)  
11 Payment (3)  
12 At that time (4)  
13 Fleur-de-lis (4)  
14 Breathe in (6)  
15 Eject (4)  
16 Occur in unison (4)  
17 Blood fluid (6)  
18 Debt note (4)  
19 Chinese money (4)  
20 Fastener (3)  
21 Viral disease (5)  
22 Makes possible (7)  
23 Goods count (11)

- DOWN  
2 Indian coin (5)  
3 Quote (4)  
4 Sad (4)  
5 Hollow (4)  
6 Keenly (7)  
7 Sound transmitter (11)  
8 Mail de mer (11)

SOLUTION TO No 59  
ACROSS: 1 Counsel 5 Valid 8 IRA 9 Plumbob 10 News 11 Spit 12 Leaguer 14 Reminiscently 16 Nodding 18 Rack 21 Excel 22 Opulent 23 Lab 24 Yummy 25 Elderly  
DOWN: 1 Cape 2 Usurp 3 Substantially 4 Libel 5 Vantage ground 6 Lawsuit 7 Destroys 13 Orangeries 15 Medicum 17 Globe 19 Clear 20 Stay



- 12 Join in (6) 24 Polish lancer (5)  
14 Louise egg (3) 25 Having life (4)  
15 Hot pod (6) 26 Animal hide (4)  
19 Frying pan (7) 27 Recreational land (4)  
20 Utter (3)



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— an occasional commentary on Important Events — Derby Day

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## PROFILE: Quentin Bell

# Who's afraid for Virginia Woolf?

Down in his potter's studio, the emeritus professor of the History and Theory of Art is hard at it assembling an exhibition of his work. It makes a change from setting the record straight on his misunderstood aunt.

To discover the powerhouse of one of England's enduring export industries it is necessary to penetrate deepest Sussex, into the lazy green countryside that spreads beneath the South Downs, and into an English country garden all set about with terracotta statues in the Italian manner.

Cobbe Place is the home of Quentin Bell and his wife, Anne Olivier Bell. Two miles in one direction lies Monk's House. Five miles in the other is Charleston. This is the heart of the Virginia Woolf belt.

Quentin, Virginia's nephew, now aged 73, balding and massively white-bearded like a storybook mad professor, emerged from his potter's studio in overalls and wellingtons, patting off clouds of white dust. The emeritus professor of the History and Theory of Art at Sussex University was busily engaged in assembling an exhibition of his work for display at Liberty's in London to coincide with the publication of his latest book, *Techniques of Terracotta*, which has nothing whatsoever to do with his aunt.

But the spectre of Virginia will not go away. Since Quentin published his definitive two-volume biography of her more than ten years ago, Woolf-dissection, particularly on the Eng. Lit. campuses of the United States, has become a British export success on a par with Dimple Haig and the Harrier jump jet.

Quentin, it must be said, does not care for much of it. "When Leonard Woolf asked me to do the biography in 1966, it was a task I took on very unwillingly. I was very much torn, because there is always a feeling of suspicion on the part of the reader about biographies written by close members of the subject's family."

"On the other hand, one knows what is probable. I am very glad that I did it now, people really had the wildest ideas about her. It is a good thing that there should be a record which, whatever its other faults, is substantially true."

Although the work was received enthusiastically by a majority of reviewers at the time, it has come under full frontal attack since, particularly from feminists. Quentin has become well used to fusillades of male chauvinist piggy.

"People feel very passionately about Virginia, particularly women; they have some image of her that they want, and they find it very painful at times to recognize that the facts do not bear them out. I am

afraid my book is quite unacceptable to many people."

Virginia has become almost a Joan of Arc figure to some sections of the feminist movement. Germaine Greer once paid a visit to Cobbe Place and told Quentin and his wife Anne Olivier Bell, a second cousin of Lord Olivier, that they were operating an illegal closed shop in the Virginia Woolf industry.

Quentin is not amused. "Those feminists are misinterpreting her, and they find my work unacceptable because it does not give them the impression they want. That doesn't matter; what does worry me is that some of the things that are appearing in the name of scholarship are quite crazy, and there is a danger that the whole of Woolf scholarship will become a joke. Some women believe she was a Marxist, and you will have noticed the really lunatic speculation in *The Times Literary Supplement* that Leonard tried to murder Virginia."

The controversy has brought an endless stream of earnest Americans to the Bells' door, although the procession is now beginning to tail off.

Quentin has no intention of writing anything ever again about his aunt, but he is still concerned to put the record straight.

"The Americans have seized on her as a great protagonist of feminism. She has a certain universal appeal in that people can find anything they want in her. Of course feminism was a very strong trait in her, but it is grossly exaggerated. She was very interested in the wrongs of her sex, and rightly so, but it is ridiculous to suggest that she was primarily a feminist. She was, first and foremost, a novelist."

"Anyway," said Quentin, rising to pour coffee into a variety of thick-lipped cups, all wildly different and all made by himself. "Why don't you ask my wife? She knows more about Virginia than anyone else alive."

Anne Olivier first became involved when she undertook the donkey-work of organizing the Woolf diaries to assist Quentin with producing the biography. Now she has edited and produced four volumes of the diaries herself, and is currently at work on the fifth and final volume.

"I never spoke to Virginia in my life. I saw her only once, across a room at a party. It was a wonderful image of a beautiful, distinguished and riveting figure in a long red dress. A vision. But an impression? No. I go with my nose through the text of her diaries; I am not good at



Harry Kerr

**Quentin Bell's career**  
Born August 19 1910  
second son of Clive Bell and Vanessa Stephen  
educated Leighton Park  
1941-43  
Political warfare executive  
1952  
Lecturer in Art Education, King's College, Newcastle  
1956  
Senior lecturer  
1962-67  
Professor of Fine Art, University of Leeds  
1964-65  
Slade Professor of Fine Art, Oxford University  
1965-66  
Fergus Professor of Fine Art, Hull University  
1967-75  
Professor of History and Theory of Art, Sussex University  
His books  
1947  
On Human Finery  
1951  
Those Impossible English (with Helmut Gernsheim)  
1961  
Roger Montane  
1963  
The Schools of Design  
1965  
Ruskin  
1967  
Victorian Artists  
1968  
Bloomsbury  
1972  
Virginia Woolf, a Biography (James Tail Black Memorial Prize; Duff Cooper Memorial Prize)  
1982  
A New and Noble School

taking a long term view." Virginia herself would not have been so tactful.

But did not Germaine Greer have a point? Are not the few remaining Bloomsburyites, or at least their children, creating a self-perpetuating industry out of a bunch of people who lived rather a long time ago and about whom we non-feminists have really heard more than enough?

Quentin is defensive, in his witty, twinkling way. "At the moment there is enormous interest, whereas 20 years ago there was undue neglect. I have grown up thinking of Bloomsbury as something other people use as a dirty word."

He smiles when reminded that the centenary of Virginia's birth last year passed almost unnoticed, and Anne Olivier cannot resist the dig that on the relevant day, *The Times* list of birthdays included Robert Burns but not Virginia.

But if you were born into Bloomsbury, you cannot entirely shuffle off the coil. Anne Olivier leads the visitor through the rambling house, said by Pevsner to be Elizabethan in parts, and proudly shows off walls hung with Duncan Grants, and a photograph of the Bell's 27-year old daughter Virginia.

The saying grace is in the downstairs lavatory, where hangs a Mark Boxer cartoon from *The Times* showing a Hampstead flutist gazing at a pile of Woolf books. "Afraid of no. Marginally bored with, yes," says the caption.

The same, one suspects, might be said of Quentin. He is charming, patient, even witty, to all enquiries about his aunt, but he would really rather talk about his pottery and sculpture, a field in which he has found the means to break free from the shackles of his upbringing. A stroll round the delightful garden

ends at a brick plinth in the middle of a rose bed, on which reposes a bronze-effect glass fibre figure in fantastic pose, entirely horizontal in mid air in her pre-Raphaelite drapery, supported only by her tumbling headpiece. Like those equestrian statues which rely for their stability on the horse's tail.

"What most pleased me about that," says Quentin, "is that the odd-job man who put it up for me said he liked it." He is, he says, demotic rather than elitist; he sculps and pots in a language everyone can understand. I profess not to understand a woman in glass fibre apparently performing a feat of levitation in the middle of his rose patch, supported by an exorcism growing from her left ear, although I hasten to add that I agree with the odd-job man.

"Well, I suppose it could be an advertisement for an airline, or for

hair lacquer," says Quentin. "But I try to combine reality with the quality of dreams."

His pottery is different, and to the untutored eye much of it has the quality of what appears to be a school class only recently grown out of plasticine. His medium is terracotta, which he chooses for its boldness and its ability to take brilliant bright colours. Others will be able to judge when it goes on show at Liberty's later this month.

Quentin, at 73, is also working in his first novel. "Well actually I've written dozens, but this is the first one I've thought worthy of being published."

Will it bear any relation to a Virginia Woolf novel?

"Oh, absolutely none. It will have a certain amount of sex and violence in it, but it does not contain a single word that would offend the purest-

minded virgin of the last century. It is like my sculpture: there is a quality of dream, together with a certain realism."

Not unlike being the nephew of an outrageously famous aunt, really: for Quentin Bell, it is the occasional shafts of realism that are most welcome, like that of the lady in Milwaukee who had been corresponding with him for years about his art criticism, and who finally mentioned at the end of a letter: "By the way, I gather you also know something about Virginia Woolf." Quentin Bell enjoyed that.

*Techniques of Terracotta*, by Quentin Bell, Chatto and Windus/The Hogarth Press. To be published on May 26, price £4.95. The Quentin Bell exhibition is at Liberty's, Regent Street, London, from May 26 until June 10.

Alan Hamilton

## FINDINGS

A weekly series reporting on research: VICTORIANS

### The other side of Victoriana



Angered by what they regard as Mrs Thatcher's unhistorical usurpation of Victorian values, to help the Tories, a group of socialist historians is going on the offensive to present an alternative view of what nineteenth century Britain was all about.

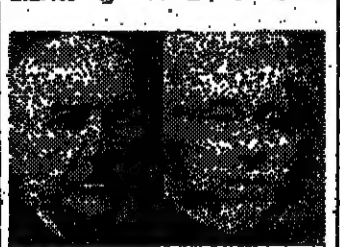
An all day workshop at Ruskin College, Oxford, next Sunday (May 22) will feature talks on such themes as the Two Nations of Victorian Britain, self-help, servitude and segregation, patriarchy and the family, and Victorian racism. The idea for the meeting, which is being sponsored by the New Statesman, came from the History Workshop Collective which publishes a lively journal of socialist history and runs annual workshops relating contemporary political and social movements to historical trends. Raphael Samuel, the collective's spokesman says: "I suppose this meeting reflects our indignation as historians at the way in which values which we know to have been deeply divisive and contradictory are being presented as though they were a unified whole. The Victorian period is now playing the same kind of symbolic role in our society as the idea of Merry England did in the period of the Industrial Revolution. It constitutes a kind of golden age which is in reality a complete myth. Indeed, for Mrs Thatcher it represents a lost childhood. She has conflated her memories of the 1930's with an idealized picture of the Victorian Age. In fact, as we hope to show, Victorian England was a divided and distant society which can't just be invoked to provide a set of guiding principles for our own age."

#### Lavish style

Somewhat surprisingly in these austere and cost-conscious times, the fashion in historical biography seems to be swinging back to the grand Victorian style. Two of the leading statesmen of nineteenth century Britain are currently being subjected to the kind of blockbuster treatment hitherto associated with a more leisurely age.

At the end of last year Allen Lane brought out the first of two volumes on Palmerston by Kenneth Bourne, itself bigger than most single-volume studies. Professor Bourne has used the ample space available to him to go into considerable detail over that part of Pam's life which he describes as *The Ruling Passion*. Numerous early morning liaisons in gardens and bedrooms are chronicled in Italian in the politician's diaries.

How different are the nocturnal affairs tersely recorded in the diaries of W. E. Gladstone



Gladstone and Palmerston

which loom large in the first volume of the massive study of the Liberal politician by Richard Shannon recently published by Hamish Hamilton. There are no less than fifteen references to prostitutes in the index of this first volume. Professor Shannon is fairly certain that Gladstone did not have explicitly sexual relations with the girls on whom he practised his 'rescue' work, but his habit of self-flagellation after several of his encounters, revealed in the recently published diaries, makes clear that there was a clear psycho-sexual element in them.

#### Ringed changes

A substantial reassessment of the impact of the Oxford Movement on the development of the Church of England is likely to result from a series of events taking place this summer to mark the centenary of the start of the Tractarian Revival.

Traditionally, the Oxford Movement has perhaps been associated principally with the introduction of 'bells and smells' and other ritualistic practices into Anglican worship. A major conference at Keele College, Oxford, in July aims to correct this limited and unbalanced

view by focusing on the spirituality and sociology of the Tractarians.

Meanwhile, in a pamphlet just published by the Kent County Archives Office, Kent and the Oxford Movement, Nigel Yates, the county archivist, argues that the movement transformed the Church of England from being an inward-looking body, very much dependent on its links with the state, to a much more assertive and independent body, prepared to take considerable initiative on political and social issues as well as religious matters.

Mr Yates has organized an exhibition on the Oxford Movement in Kent which will tour the county throughout the summer. There will also be lectures by distinguished church historians.

The actual anniversary of the event which launched the Oxford Movement, the preaching of the Assize Sermon in the University Church by John Keble is being celebrated by an outdoor enchanter presided over by the Archbishop of Canterbury in the University Parks on July 16.

#### Unchained

From High Church to Low. The celebration of another notable anniversary in British religious history is producing an equally significant reinterpretation of a well known figure.

William Wilberforce, the most prominent Evangelical layman of his age, the leader of the small group of MPs known as 'The Saints' and, as every schoolboy knows, the man who led the agitation against the slave trade, died 150 years ago this July. The University of Hull, his native city, is staging an impressive number of events to mark the anniversary, ranging from a commemorative cricket match between Yorkshire and the West Indies on June 3 to an international conference on the legacies of West Indian slavery at the end of July.

A series of lectures already held at the University has indicated that a reassessment of Wilberforce's position in history might be overdue. Dr

James Walvin, senior lecturer in history at the University of York, suggested that the role of the Evangelical campaigners in securing the abolition of slavery was not as great as has traditionally been thought. Other speakers argued that Wilberforce should perhaps be remembered less as the man who freed the slaves and more as the model Christian statesman who infused Victorian politicians with notions of morality and righteous causes, or as the "Father of the Victorians" who played a key role in establishing such institutions as family prayers and observance of the Sabbath.

#### Proud preservers

The Victorian Society is celebrating its twenty-fifth birthday this year by patting itself modestly on the back for its part in helping to save some of Britain's most important nineteenth century buildings from demolition and generally raising the level of public appreciation for one of the most inventive periods in our architectural development.

The Society regards as its greatest success the preservation of the Government buildings at the western end of Whitehall which were seriously threatened in 1965 by a plan to create a massive new Government centre. It has also helped to save, at least for the time being, the engine shed of Liverpool Street Station and the eastern galleries of Waterhouse's Natural History Museum, although both are still threatened by eventual redevelopment.

Outside London, the society is proud of its role in helping to prevent the destruction of the General Post Office in Birmingham. It and other major buildings in the city, will be toured in a special walk on September 24 entitled 'Hard Won Successes' and led by the society's chairman, Alan Crawford.

The society is all too aware of its failures over the last quarter century which include such great Victorian constructions as the Great Hall and arch of Euston Station which have disappeared. At the moment it is concerned about the fate of Thoresby Hall in Nottinghamshire, which was bought by the Coal Board in 1980, and is now gradually crumbling as a coal seam is mined under its foundations.

Ian Bradley



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# THE TIMES DIARY

## Grape shot

Today's candidate, whom I usher in from the political fringe, is an old friend, the wine writer T. A. (Tommy) Layton. He will be contesting Hove for his own Save the Earth Party. His "six good reasons to send me to Parliament", he says in his election address, are really all one: "a plea for legislation to slow down the earth and give our planet a chance to revitalize itself before it dies." Layton specifically denies that he is a crackpot though the picture he has sent me shows only half his head from the cheekbones down. His answer to unemployment is short too: "Ban the word from the dictionary and call it early retirement instead." He is shaving off his much-loved beard to improve his campaign image, and says his friend Clement Freud thinks he has a good chance of winning the seat from the incumbent Tory. "He has invited me up to the Commons so he can show me where I will be sitting."

## Floating fund

Matthew Middlemiss, captain of boats at Christ's College, Cambridge, tells me that the 153-year-old Christ's Boat Club is at the brink of bankruptcy. Last week the present Blue boat coxswain was substituting in the Christ's 1st eight and took the opportunity to hit a barge, removing six feet from the bows of the club's brand new boat, recently christened by Countess Mountbatten in honour of her late father. For the boat to be repaired it has to go back to West Germany. The club is making an emergency appeal to its old Boaties.

## Subman's holiday

Making his farewell at the Eastbourne annual conference of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants today is the deputy general secretary, Bill Wright, who has looked after the Ministry of Defence for 20 years. Next week he travels to Norway for a retirement holiday, to the Hardanger fjord into which the Royal Norwegian Navy has been pouring large quantities of explosives in the hope of dislodging a suspected Russian submarine. If anybody could find it, Wright's friends at the Anti-Submarine Warfare Establishment at Portland could. Perhaps he should wander down to the fjord side and offer their services.

Common Market jargon is dismaying even supporters of Europeanism. As a leading member of the Union of European Federalists put it at a recent rally: "How can the electors feel love or affection for an organization which refers to flowers as 'non-edible vegetables'?"

## Forthercord

Middle East political thrillers by British authors are setting new publishing records in New York. Following Le Carré's pre-publication sale of 40,000 copies of *The Little Drummer Girl* for Knopf, Crown have risked printing 50,000 copies of a lengthy first novel by an unknown television scriptwriter, Morris Farhi. The book, *The Last Days*, is 560 pages long - less than half Farhi's intended length - and will appear here next week under the Bodley Head imprint. Its bulk, however, has proved a problem in the US: more than 20,000 copies have sold during its first two weeks.

## Moral support

"What a mingling of good causes yesterday morning up on Hampstead Heath: a dog-walk in aid of spastics, a sponsored plod for the British Heart Foundation, and, suddenly, Michael Foot and his dog, Dizzy. The Labour leader did not join the 70 soaking joggers on their 12-mile course, but did make encouraging noises and donated towards the £3,000 total.

## Slipping...

I am relieved, but frankly surprised, to have had only one reproach for inadvertently attributing Mark Antony's funeral oration to Brutus in my recent report of David Owen's speech at Hampstead town hall. It is unusual for my readers to be so slack in spotting my slips and crowding over them. Appropriately, the one correction to hand comes from Toby Mason, the prefect of hall at Winchester College, and mercifully he is very nice about it.

## Paper mate

"The paperless office, the database society, the cashless society, the office at home" are more or less upon us, proclaims the *Penguin Dictionary of Telecommunications*, published later this month. The author is John Graham, but his wife Diane must know all about it as well, especially the office at home, though not a paperless one. Graham's acknowledgement goes to "my wife Diane, who had to read, correct, index and sequence all the text and type the final manuscript." None of which, supposedly, could be done by the new communications technology he was cataloguing.

Karl von Wagan, a stable troubled Christian Democrat Euro MP, is giving up his electric razor in exasperation. In London last week with a European Parliamentary delegation to discuss the removal of internal trade barriers, he was telling anyone who cared to listen that the profession of different phlophole sizes in member nations had driven him back to the safety razor. With the EEC talking itself on such basics, what possible hope can there be for energy, transport, customs duties and all the rest?

PHS

# East-West trade: will the deal stick?

Washington  
East-West trade, the issue until only a few months ago threatening the unity of the Atlantic alliance, will not be a bone of contention at the Williamsburg economic summit at the end of this month.

That is official. The Americans are saying so in public, so are the Europeans. The way the matter was handled at last week's ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris would seem to bear this out.

Yet despite the harmonious chords which have echoed from the recent meetings of the OECD, the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (known as Cocom) and the International Energy Agency, a feeling still persists that East-West trade will remain a divisive issue for some time to come. Some Europeans privately concede there will be more sniping across the Atlantic later this year.

Mr Lionel Olmer, the US Under Secretary for International Trade, does not agree. "I feel persuaded that the East-West trade issue... is not going to be long for this world as an agenda item", he said during an interview after his return from the OECD meeting.

Since last year's row over the Soviet gas pipeline serious thinking has been taking place on both sides of the Atlantic about the value to the West of trade with the Soviet block and the military benefits which the Soviet Union frequently derives by importing high technology imports from the West.

This thinking has centred on the "studies" initiated last autumn as a result of the compromise worked out by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, which led to the Reagan Administration agreeing to lift the embargo on European suppliers of equipment for the Soviet pipeline.

Most of the studies, which dealt with energy, credits, technology transfers and the broader economic

and military implications of East-West trade, have been completed or are at an advanced stage. Although they contain little in the way of firm recommendations they have produced broad agreement on the need for trade with the Soviet block to be more carefully monitored and regulated by the western allies.

Some analysts believe the present display of harmony is largely cosmetic and is designed to prevent a repetition of the acrimonious exchanges which marked last year's summit at Versailles. "They have only papered over the cracks, but really nothing has been resolved," commented one American observer.

These cracks could appear in a number of ways. First, there is the possibility of "linkage" at the Williamsburg meeting itself - that one of the participants may threaten to make an issue of East-West trade if it feels it is not getting its way on other matters such as exchange rates, interest rates or protectionism.

Cracks could develop when the haggling starts in earnest on the additional high-technology items which should be included in Cocom's list of export controls. Mr Olmer argued that the recent Cocom meeting in Paris had demonstrated the political will to "beef up" the resources to make Cocom a more effective organization, and to investigate and punish violators.

But he conceded that it will take time and a lot more discussion to get

agreement about what items should be included and which ones taken off the list of restricted exports.

The US wants to shorten the Cocom list by eliminating, as he put it, "the lower end of the technological spectrum in return for new controls at the top end." Among the items the US wants to see included on the list are gas turbine engines, electronic grade silicon, printed circuit board technology, robotics, communications switching equipment and computer hardware and software. The Europeans object to the inclusion of some of these items.

This need not be too contentious if the haggling were left to officials from the State Department and the Department of Commerce who are sensitive to European concerns. However the Pentagon sees things differently and has consistently called for much tougher restrictions on trade with the Soviet block. Pentagon officials have advocated placing items which contain even the simplest form of microprocessor on the list of banned exports.

Conflicts between hard-line right-wingers and the more pragmatic members of the Reagan Administration also form the background to a third area of possible discussion between the US and the Europeans. This centres on American plans to extend the Export Administration Act when it comes up for renewal this September.

This is the Act under which the

pipeline sanctions were imposed last year. The Reagan Administration is said to be toughening it by investing the President with even greater authority to restrict the flow of goods from both America and European companies to the Soviet block.

Earlier this month the European Community filed an unusually strong protest expressing its "deep abiding concern" over the new American proposals. Last week Sir Oliver Wright, the British Ambassador, warned that "the alliance may be steering into trouble here." He said the Europeans particularly objected to the extra-territorial and retroactive elements of the legislation.

The Bill which is now before Congress was originally much tougher, but has been substantially watered down by administration pragmatists, led by Mr Olmer, who recognized that it would provoke immediate confrontation with the European allies. However there is concern that hard-liners on strategic trade, such as Mr William Clark, the National Security Adviser and Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, could still ensure it is toughened up again.

Mr Olmer contends that the Bill as it stands at present should satisfy most of the Europeans' special concerns. "Even if they are not happy with it now, I think they'll learn to be happy with it in due course," he said.

For the moment, however, both the Americans and the Europeans have a vested interest in agreement at Williamsburg. President Reagan, who is chairing the conference, clearly wants the meeting to be a success, unmarred by inter-alliance bickering. The Europeans do not wish to do anything that could provoke a sharp American response.

Both sides also broadly share the view contained in a new report by the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment that any action which threatens alliance unity simply plays into Soviet hands.

Nicholas Ashford

Barbara Castle

# First slip, now for the run-out

So the chips are down and the Labour Party is in better heart than its opponents would have believed possible even a short while ago. Mrs Thatcher has made her first mistake and Labour is the beneficiary.

The Iron Lady goes into the election with the iron a little bent. I have not the slightest doubt that she did not want to go to the country on June 9 - but if she was pushed, it was her own fault. She had allowed herself to be edged nearer and nearer the precipice for some weeks, when a sharp word to the June speculators would have stopped them in their tracks.

Her claim that a June election is in the "national interest" to stop the election speculation, when she herself has fanned it, just won't wash. She has left herself exposed to the accusation of naked opportunism as the next politician, and she can't be enjoying that.

So she starts her campaign wrong-footed. She is shrewd enough to know that her code-name of "Resolute" has had to be qualified. In the event, she has been resolute for only four years, when she could have had five. Her confidence that the mini-recovery is for keeps has been thrown into doubt by her own act.

What led her to go for June in the end when she was clearly hesitant remains a mystery. But there is no doubt about the psychological consequences. Ironically, the Labour Party, which certainly wanted more time to get its fighting formations into shape, now feels that she has done it a good turn. In the first place, she has closed the Labour Party ranks. More important, she has given its morale a boost through the revelation that her touch is not as sure as it had begun to seem.

Since her great strength lies in the fact that she seems immune from the accidents that trip up ordinary mortals, her first slip is an important break through which will progressively destroy the myth. And once the armour of the infallibility is cracked, all sorts of things can happen unexpectedly to widen that crack when the election heat is on.

Everyone knows that governments survive more out of good luck than out of good management. But good luck seems to stay with those who behave consistently. Mrs Thatcher's mistake is that she has been induced by loss of nerve out of the public's idea of her character. At this moment, I am irresistibly reminded of Edward Heath's fatal election bid in 1974. Could it be that by one of the strangest quirks of political history she has repeated the misjudgment of the man she so much despised?

James Reston

# A security lesson for Reagan

Washington  
President Reagan has been talking recently as if he were back on the old General Electric radio show peddling washing machines.

When his National Commission on Excellence in Education warned the other day of "a rising tide of mediocrity" in the schools and colleges, which "threatens our very future as a nation and a people", he refrained from questioning this gloomy conclusion but blamed it on the intervention of the federal government in education.

When the commission called for tougher requirements in basic high school subjects, for higher college admission standards, for longer school days, for more homework, for higher teacher salaries and for an extended school year, Ronald Reagan's response was that the parents and communities should be responsible for such reforms without expecting more financial aid from Washington.

Never mind what the divorce rate and working mothers have done to complicate the teaching of children at home. Mr Reagan's simplistic answer to this complex and alarming national situation was that the government was not the answer but was itself a large part of the problem.

When he was delivering his little private enterprise sermons for GE before he went into politics, it didn't matter very much. But when the head of the government uses the prestige of his office to portray the government as the enemy of the people, it matters a great deal.

Nobody is arguing that the federal government should or could replace the family and the community as the main guiding force in public education; merely that it should recognize the present national danger and use its powers to help resolve it.

This is what President Lincoln did during another educational crisis. Even in the middle of the Civil War, concerned about the need to educate the rising generation in the mechanical and agricultural arts, Lincoln signed the Morrill Bill, which made large grants of federal land available to the states for the creation of land grant colleges.

It was this federal "intervention" that supplied the seed money and foundation for the state colleges and universities of today, which in turn brought higher education for the masses and an agricultural revolution that is still the marvel of the world.

Mr Reagan, who attended Enreka College amid the cornfields of Illinois, is surely aware of this. But when he runs into a problem, especially when he's out on the hustings, his instinctive reaction is to blame it on the federal govern-

Obviously, there are important differences between 1983 and 1974, but there are also parallels. Edward Heath, in his bid for a second term of office, by taking on the miners in a "Who governs Britain?" election theme, did not seem as secure as Mrs Thatcher does now, but he had a lot going for him - a lead in the opinion polls, the unpopularity of the trade unions. Yet he came unstuck.

There were two reasons for this. The first was that the ostensible reason for the election was soon proved to be phoney. His fate was sealed when the Prices and Incomes Board suddenly produced a report which showed that the miners, far from holding society to ransom by excessive pay demands, were in fact falling seriously behind other groups. Mrs Thatcher cannot be sure that her unnecessary election will not be similarly exposed.

Secondly, by hesitating about the date, Edward Heath missed the boat. Expected to call an election in January 1974, when the fuel crisis was at its height, he did not pluck up enough courage to do so until February 3. As a result, he ran into a succession of bad economic news: a record trade deficit; the biggest jump in prices since 1947. With every unfortunate announcement, it became clear that his accident-proneness had become terminal.

I believe history will show that Mrs Thatcher has also chosen the wrong date. One thing is certain: economically, things cannot get better for her over the next few weeks - they can only get worse.

In the international field, the summit, Williamsburg and Stuttgart, that lie ahead are not going to be the personal triumph that she hopes for. At home, there is always Michael Heseltine waiting to put his foot in it. And every time she declares that economic recovery is just round the corner, the mocking chorus will come back: "Then why choose June?"

Mrs Thatcher had two choices: either to soldier on with no determination to the very end, or to make a dash for it at the best time for her party's interests. If it was opportunism she was after, the best time was undoubtedly immediately after victory in the Falklands war, yet she shrank from that. Her prevarication may prove as fatal as Mr Heath's.

The Labour Party, for its part, will stand and fight single-mindedly. It has no choice. And that concentrates the will wonderfully.

The author is Labour MEP for Greater Manchester, North.

Peter Nichols on the spectacular future planned for an imperial past

# Breathing new life into a caesarian dig

Rome  
Which way would the emperors vote? No party in Italy's latest general election will make an issue about the views of Rome's ancient rulers on present political problems, but the June vote could indirectly help to decide whether an ambitious project for excavating their imperial forums will be rescued from the inter-governmental limbo where it, too, is sleeping.

The project was announced in January. Its genuinely imperial scale was made clear by Rome's communist mayor, Signor Ugo Vetere, who said that by the year 2000 the whole vast area of the forums would be excavated and added to the Roman forum to create an unrivalled archaeological park.

Over the next 20 years, the heart of ancient Rome would be uncovered from Piazza Venezia to the Colosseum. Part of the plan included demolition of the highway which Mussolini cut across the forums, the Via Dei Fori Imperiali. Doubts were quickly brushed aside that the communists were seeking to stir the glories of the past to make men forget the problems of the present, or that the scheme was some sort of anti-fascist vendetta.

It was all, the mayor explained, part of a new concept of city life in which the freshest revealed imperial splendour would make its contribution to a modern capital about to be transformed in a variety of other ways.

Not everyone was convinced. The scope of the project was in itself a lot to digest. It also raised practical difficulties, such as how to cope with the traffic once the Via Dei Fori Imperiali, one of Rome's busiest thoroughfares, was removed. Some critics consider the cost was unwarranted at a time when monuments throughout the country are crumbling, museum cellars are full of exhibits with nowhere to show them and the staffs of leading galleries are complaining that their



Ancient Rome, and the Mussolini highway that will disappear if the new excavations are authorized

budget does not keep them in paper clips. As the imperial remains under the forums were perfectly safe where they were, why not let them stay while what was already on the surface could be properly cared for?

The great advocate of the project was, and remains, Professor Adriano La Regina, the superintendent for Rome's monuments. His vision is both that of an archaeologist and of a social planner. He does not see why an abundance of archaeological remains should preclude uncovering others, especially as the plan would give Rome unrivalled archaeological preeminence as well as the chance to display the splendour of the past in a modern urban development. He convinced Signor Vincenzo Scotti, Minister for the Cultural Heritage in the last government, but one.

The buried markets, libraries and temples built by the emperors passed to the keeping of a new and untired minister, Signor Nicola Vernola. By then, however, the world's press had taken the story in hand. The first international meet-

ing to study the project is due to open here later this month.

Signor Vernola did not share the enthusiasm of his predecessor. On March 29 he announced that the project was at the moment no more than wishful thinking. Existing legislation did not provide financial cover for anything more than some modest test digs and a great deal more deliberation would be required before there could be talk of tearing up the road.

Opponents of the scheme were jubilant. The best its shattered supporters could manage was to argue that nothing had really changed and that the money had been expected to come from existing budgets. In a sense they were correct. The minister was on solid legal ground when he said that the legislators had not envisaged this project when they had approved current expenditure of 180,000 million lire (£80m) for the defence of Rome's monuments. In fact, the law permitting this expenditure does not talk of the forums project as such: it

refers only to comparatively minor preliminary studies. Signor Vernola rejected accusations that his decision was taken on political grounds in order to avoid allowing too attractive a project to be launched by a left-wing administration.

Those who argued that nothing had changed overlooked, perhaps purposely, the vital point. There is considerable difference between a project on this scale which has the backing of the incumbent minister and the same project which does not. Moreover, when Signor Vernola was asked how he thought Rome should develop, he replied that that was a question for the people of Rome.

Now the government has fallen. Opponents of the forums project will no doubt hope that Signor Vernola will be reconfirmed as Minister for the Cultural Heritage after the election. Its supporters will no doubt hope that he does so well personally in Bari, where he was formerly mayor, that he will be able to insist on a more important post.

All fees can be paid by credit card, but apart from that touch of Americanism, the ambience is grimly utilitarian.

The 16 shooting bays are separated from the reception room by a sound proof glass partition, but the long tables where members eat their packed lunches, clean their weapons and chat are bare and very functional. The plastic upholstery on chairs is tattered.

There is a saying that violence is as American as apple pie. Gun-control advocates argue that fewer guns should mean fewer killings, but statistics are inconclusive. Strong penalties for illegal handguns seem to be a deterrent in Massachusetts, for example, where gun murders fell by 35 per cent after one-year prison terms became mandatory for carrying an unlicensed gun.

There were nearly 11,000 handgun deaths in the US in 1980, the latest figure available, and that is more than half of all homicides.

There is another saying, that violence breeds violence, and police records across the country indicate that citizens are beginning to kill burglars. In one recent year, New Yorkers fired shot 15 intruders. In Dallas, the number was 19 and in Houston, residents shot and killed 25 intruders. One report says that in Miami, crime victims shot and killed twice as many suspects as police did.

Mr Preiser heads a committee which awards a \$500 prize to anyone who defends himself against an intruder, and the most recent recipients have been housewives, one of them a septuagenarian. "Once you encourage retaliation by victims, crime decreases," Mr Preiser said.

Violent crime at present is on the increase in America. Whether it will continue to rise now that many Americans now believe it is OK to shoot the bad guys remains to be seen.

Adrienne Blue

# Downtown, where the caring nurse may be first to draw



Shot full of holes: a real life practice target is a New York gun club

Nearly 10,000 people applied for handgun licences in New York City last year - more than twice the number who applied before a tougher handgun law went into effect in August, 1980.

Only those who have applied to carry guns, as opposed to keeping them at home, or in the office or using them at a gun range, will be screened carefully.

In New York, as in many other US cities, it is easy to get a pistol licence. Edward Koch, New York's Mayor, said: "Any person who wants a handgun who doesn't have a criminal record or a mental illness history can get a gun to keep in their home or business without establishing need." By law, any New York resident over the age of 18 can obtain such a licence simply by applying for it.

Only 30 per cent of applications to carry handguns are approved, however. Documentation is required showing "a special need" such as evidence that the applicant has to carry large amounts of cash, usually for business.

New York  
High noon in Manhattan. The two pistols lay on the table beside a liverwurst sandwich and a neatly quartered tomato. The pistols, a Colt .38 Detective Special and a Ruger 357 Magnum, belonged to John Blau, 49, a social worker. Blau, who was cleaning the gleaming pistols, had just spent two hours and \$40 (about £28) testing them at the West Side Rifle and Pistol Range, where more and more New Yorkers, many of them soft-spoken and middle-class - and 15 per cent of them female - can practise shooting seven days a week.

"Nice people, responsible people, don't use the privilege of owning a gun against innocent people," Mr Blau said. "The person who kills with a gun will kill with a baseball bat or a knife. The gun-club member uses his gun only for defence."

"It's a sport," Joseph Carroll said, interrupting. The liverwurst sandwich was his. Carroll, 64, a retired civil servant, owns eight rifles and five handguns, including "the Cadillac of the line," a Colt Gold Cup .45. "The difference between a man and a boy," he said, "is the size of his gun."

On the firing range, a nurse, wearing protective glasses and ear muffs, aimed her pistol at the chest of a cardboard man. There is a choice of targets at West Side, the classic bull's eye and the larger, more popular silhouette of a menacing-looking man with a gun. Each time Arlene Maniscalco, 33, squeezed the trigger, the pistol bucked slightly, but the bullet found the heart.

"I love life," Miss Maniscalco said. "I'm not going to have myself sacrificed because of someone else's whim."

Miss Maniscalco said that of six close friends who were at nursing college together, four have been raped and two brutally beaten by strangers. "I don't want to become a statistic," she added. "If I thought my life was in danger, I'd kill."





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## ENEMIES OF LIBERTY

In his Hamlyn lecture on Friday, Lord Hailsham endorsed a statement by ex-President Jimmy Carter that "the single purpose pressure group" has become the greatest enemy of individual liberty, and made two cogent points. He did not suggest that such groups — be they CND, anti-violence, women's or animal liberation fronts, or any other — should be made illegal. The point he was making was a moral not a legal one, based on the moral responsibility of every group and individual in a democracy not to pursue even lawful objectives too far. Nor did he suggest that one should differentiate between pressure groups with desirable and undesirable objectives.

Within the ambit of lawful protest any pressure group — even the National Front, for example — has as much right to be accommodated as CND, or the People's March for Jobs, for that matter. Political pressure groups in their rhetoric show different degrees of respect towards the principle of legal protest in a parliamentary democracy. But any group's lack of respect for parliamentary discipline and freedom is not sufficient grounds for depriving that group of the opportunity to exploit existing freedoms, while they last. It just imposes on a liberal society the obligation to see that it defends its rights fiercely when they are threatened, and to overcome the distasteful paradox that the defence of liberalism often involves some reduction in freedoms.

The clash of argument between the major parties in a general election may seem on the surface to have reduced this point to a minor aspect of our procedures. That is not the case. We have only to listen to Mr Arthur Scargill to realize that the philosophy of pursuing sectional

interest without restraint is a sadly dominant characteristic of political debate.

Mr Scargill, speaking both as a leader of the miners' union and as a major financial contributor to the Labour Party's election campaign, has announced that he would like a Conservative victory in the polls to the triumph of the Nazis in Germany — to be resisted thereafter by any means available. So much for Mr Scargill's belief in a responsible democracy.

Moreover the planners of CND are concocting a whole range of obstructive, possibly illegal, and certainly discriminatory tactics with which to pursue their campaign. For instance, they seek to encourage secondary action against the firm Tarmac which is carrying out contract work at Greenham Common. There is nothing more arrogant than the pressure group which believes that it is entitled to use any means to achieve its end. That has been the language and practice of zealotry throughout the ages. It is zealotry and intolerance of that kind which ought to have been rendered unnecessary by the tradition of a parliamentary democracy.

The posturing of these pressure groups reveals one or all of three possibilities. First it is possible that society's sense of responsibility in which citizens work together at the self-discipline of parliamentary democracy has become eroded through self-indulgence and a general lack of awareness that liberties cannot ever be taken for granted. That is, in any case, most likely in a society lulled by 38 years of peace, and the softening influence of a short political memory.

Secondly there is the possibility that pressure groups, while founded on a perfectly legitimate quest to achieve a particular social or political objective, tend

to lose a sense of proportion and become blinded by the objectives. That can lead to the third possibility which is that they are then taken over by people who care less about the objective than about the fact that a liberal democracy can, if it is careless, be destroyed from within.

That destruction can be achieved by the pursuit of single issue objectives with methods which obstruct or disregard the natural workings of a political system that is quicker to act for the general good than to respond to particular grievances.

All governments, and not just Socialist ones, have to weigh priorities. As Lord Hailsham said: "All responsible governments, Socialist or otherwise, are compelled to formulate policies at any one time by making hard choices between different courses of otherwise desirable action, rendered incompatible with one another by limitation of available means or available time."

In that context it does not matter what a pressure group is pressing for. Apart from questioning the inherent desirability of any pressure group's objective, its members should ask themselves two further questions. First do they propose to remain within the law, and within the spirit of the conventions which have framed our democracy over the years, and which most citizens still find acceptable? We know Mr Scargill's answer to that.

Secondly, can they justify their own particular objective in comparison with other legitimate needs and aims of other members of society who may not have joined their particular lobby? The value and strength of our system of government stand well in comparison to almost all others in the world. It will endure only so long as it is founded on self-discipline and mutual tolerance.

## FRIENDS BEYOND THE NEED

The Israeli-Lebanese agreement is to be welcomed for two reasons. First, it shows again, as did Camp David, what can be achieved when the United States manages to persuade an Arab state to sit down with Israel and negotiate. Secondly, it has given the fragile Lebanese government the confidence to go out and argue its case with other Arab governments. It deserves all the support it needs. After all, nobody can wish for a return to the bloodshed of either the Lebanese civil war, or of last year's Israeli invasion.

Whatever the political movement achieved by that invasion, however, does not entitle the Begin government or its apologists in the West to re-write the record by claiming that Israeli actions in Beirut were "vilified and distorted by the Western media". That just will not wash.

Nobody thanks the messenger who brings bad news. There could have been no good news last year in the daily spectacle of Israeli planes and guns seeking out terrorist targets and, in the process, killing thousands of women and children. War is an unpleasant business, initially rendered tolerable nowadays by the plasticity with which violence is habitually coated on television screens.

In Beirut last summer there was obviously some stage management of television films and some newspaper reporting. That is an inevitable casualty of war in any circumstances, and the anarchic and chaotic conditions of Beirut would only have accentuated it. But to suggest that it was Israel which was a greater victim than the thousands of innocents who died is to reveal, on the part of the spokesmen in Jerusalem and their apologists in the West, a reluctance to take criticism and an inability to be fully aware of the consequences of one's actions — let alone to accept responsibility for them — which is truly alarming.

At a recent gathering in London organised by the Insti-

tute of Jewish Affairs it was clear that many in the audience seemed to be unaware that the Hebrew press in Israel had been much more critical of Israeli military operations than had the British press. Not only unaware, but unwilling to be aware. Yet the crowd was very ready with its criticism of Western correspondents — particularly our own Middle East correspondent — while showing a woeful capacity for invention and exaggeration. Those were the very faults which the critics were trying to lay at the feet of correspondents who it was implied were intimidated, greedy for fame, sensationalist, potentially anti-semitic, and lazy.

How many times had any of these omniscient armchair critics risked his life to cross town with his despatch for the day? For that has been the daily reality in Beirut for many years now; but perhaps, unlike the correspondents whom they criticize, the members of the IJA symposium had not themselves been to Beirut to find that out.

In Beirut there is a permanent atmosphere of fear. There are no press offices or communiqués. There is none of the apparatus of easy journalism. There is indeed intimidation. One journalist is known to have been shot by Palestinian terrorists. Another, last year — a French television cameraman seeking to provide actual film of the effects of an Israeli bombing — was decapitated by bombers on their second run. No terrorist he; but no doubt his critics would accuse him of bias in seeking to film what he did. A tragic bias in his case, in favour of getting too close to the truth.

The brutality of the Beirut war and the subsequently prolonged involvement in Lebanon are obviously shocks for Israeli society and for all those Jews who have a deep, abiding and necessary emotional involvement with the fate of the Jewish state. Most previous wars have been short and sharp. They have usually been fought out in the

antiseptic arena of the desert, or in sparsely populated territory in the Jordan valley. Now these supporters have had to come to terms with a scale of civilian casualties vastly exceeding the numbers of Israeli military casualties.

The Begin government's policies have tested to its limits the principle of "our country right or wrong" which has bound most Jewish opinion behind Israel in previous emergencies. The country has always lived in the glare of publicity and always will. That may inhibit an Israeli government in its actions to a much greater degree than it would Israel's neighbours. To judge by its reaction to Western criticism Jerusalem frets at such inhibitions. At other times, however, certainly in terms of the moral and material support it receives, Israel profits from living so much in the public eye of Western society. There are penalties as well as prizes in celebrity status.

Israeli society is healthily aware of its differences. The country is loud with argument, as it was last year, for the first time during an actual war. Mr Begin thrives on controversy, but his supporters overseas seem less sure of themselves. They are more sensitive to what they see as a collective slur each time the actions of the Begin government are criticised.

That is only to be expected among expatriates of all kinds, who have an understandable over-sensitivity when a minority falls under the shadow of critical majority opinion. But such a minority should not seek to deflect the criticism by finding wholly implausible causes for it which do justice to neither party. In London the British apologists for Palestinian behaviour often suffer the same inability to absorb criticism as those for whom they carry the flag. Not surprisingly with friends like these, both sides of this argument attract more enemies than they deserve, and certainly more than they need.

concluded in the freely negotiated tripartite talks conducted by the Israeli and Lebanese delegations with American participation and all but signed some three weeks before Mr Shultz embarked on his mission.

This had been achieved despite frequently expressed impatience and scepticism largely as a result of undramatic, patient Israeli-Lebanese negotiation rather than by the fashionable *deus ex machina* of "American pressure".

That is the real lesson King Hussein, the PLO and the Syrian leaders should seriously consider.

For once, the European Community leaders, and especially the Foreign Secretary could do something positive in the Middle East by impressing the significance of this lesson on their friends in the region; and who better to carry the message than a return trip by the Minister of

State, to Amman, Damascus and to the PLO in Tunis. Yours faithfully, JON KIMCHE, Camilla Lacey Lodge, Westbuckle, Dorking, Surrey.

### Inanimate illiteracy

From Mr J. Dyson Taylor  
Sir, It is possible that inanimate objects can also be affected by "morphic resonance"? ("Spectrum" May 6). If so, could it be that the ever-rising near-illiteracy, reported in teenagers leaving school, is the cause of the printing machines producing newspapers making ever more spelling mistakes? Yours faithfully, J. DYSON TAYLOR, Hausstauff 7/B, Kitzbühel, Austria.

## Nuclear arms in Nato context

From Mr A. L. King-Harman

Sir, With the election imminent the arguments put forward by Mr Anthony Verrier (May 10) need rebuttal. It simply is not true that phasing out British nuclear weapons would leave our relations with Nato unimpaired. Official Nato support for the nuclear forces of Britain and France is contained in the Ottawa Declaration of 1974 and has remained constant ever since.

In national terms neither country has ever been prepared to leave the deterrent capability of the West, and thus its security, totally in the hands of the United States, nor for that matter the strategic and political decisions associated with nuclear weapons. European backing for the British and French nuclear forces is based largely on the same considerations.

Political considerations apart, it makes little military sense to phase out the European component of the deterrent when over 1,000 megaton warheads of the Soviet SS20 force are targeted on military and civilian centres in Western Europe.

The two forces concerned are in no way militarily insignificant, as Soviet efforts to have them included in the current arms control negotiations show; they certainly add substantially to the deterrent capabilities of the West in political terms and must be additional restraining factors should the USSR ever contemplate resorting to force to resolve its differences with the West.

As to the UK force itself, it and its command and control system are virtually invulnerable to a Soviet first strike and are designed specifically for a retaliatory strike. Phasing out would be unlikely to result in larger conventional forces, where the need is manpower as much as equipment; the UK nuclear force has only taken from two per cent to seven per cent of the defence budget over the years and it would seem unlikely that the sums saved would be used for equipment, which already takes 46 per cent of the defence budget, a much higher percentage than in almost every other Nato country. I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

A. L. KING-HARMAN, Ouse Manor, Sharnbrook, N Bedford, MK44 1JL.

From Mr Jeremy Wilde

Sir, I had always thought that the principal advantage of multilateral nuclear disarmament was the supposed bargaining power derived from the possession of arms of one's own to reduce, in exchange for reduction by the opposition.

Mr Andropov's latest proposal seems to make this possible, but the British and French multilateralists will not cooperate. Are they not then just another breed of unilateralists? Yours disarming, JEREMY WILDE, 10 Weysprings, Haslemere, Surrey, May 5.

### Tenants' claims

From Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC  
Sir, Under the headline "Housing courts urged by surveyors to speed tenants' claims" your property correspondent (May 2) reported that ministerial consideration was being given to a scheme submitted by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors for the setting up of special courts "in parallel with the existing county courts" to speed tenants' claims in all housing matters. Apart from the expense, the statutory implementation of any such scheme is no simple affair; that is if these courts are to have exclusive jurisdiction in all housing matters.

Questions arise as to whether the proposed power of enforcement at the hands of part time members of the tribunal should extend to commitment; as to rules of procedure; as to appellate procedures; and as to the availability of legal aid. As it is wholly impracticable to extend the law to deal with specific problems should the need arise, it is not understood why the county court should not retain its jurisdiction in accordance with current procedures.

A case in point arose during the committee stage of the Housing and Building Control Bill (now not to proceed) in connection with the resolution of disputes between councils and their tenants in connection with transfers of accommodation when marital or extra marital relations of those in possession ended, and also in connection with repairs and improvements. It became apparent that consideration would be given to issuing regulations to deal with such problems. Surely the county court is the appropriate forum for the resolution of this type of dispute? I am, Sir, Your obedient servant.

CAMPBELL OF ALLOWAY, Temple, EC4.

### Hedge against loss

From Mr D. H. Harris  
Sir, The traditional craft of hedge-laying is alive and well on the Oxford Canal at Claydon and Cropredy, where the fruits of winter maintenance work by the British Waterways Board enrich the eye and surrounding landscape.

It would be an even better countryside if local authorities and much of the farming community laid their rippers to rest and laid their hedges in the traditional way of their forefathers and lengthmen of the Oxford Canal. Yours faithfully, DAVID HARRIS, Narrow Boat Gongoozler, The Marina, Penny Compton, Warwickshire.

## Paying for injuries caused in the air

From Mr Peter Martin

Sir, Your third leader (May 11) summarised admirably the present unsatisfactory state of the law relating to compensation for personal injury or death caused during international carriage by air.

Of course the present limit of £11,799 is too low. Of course no victim of accident should have to discharge a burden of proof of such astonishing strictness as the Court of Appeal, in *Goldman v Thai Airways International Ltd*, has decided he must if he is to be adequately compensated beyond that limit. Of course, in the absence of new and complete international agreement special contracts for a higher limit will help. But the wider issue seems never fully to be discussed.

Would it not be wiser, given the existence of limits of which by now most passengers are or ought to be aware, for them to be encouraged to take out adequate accident insurance to meet the risks for themselves or their families of disability or death? Such cover is cheap and readily available. This heretical view, which raises complex issues of social policy, may be unpopular but it is a practical basis — at least on an interim basis.

IATA might just consider encouraging airlines to add automatic accident insurance as part of the ticket package. At the same time, it is difficult for existing limits to be increased without international

agreement and, in particular, the agreement of the United States, which is at present sadly not available.

Although there are some who say that the decision in *Goldman v Thai Airways International Ltd* was that of a hard case making bad law, the other view is that it is highly desirable that the courts should give rigid, strict interpretations to the wording of the Warsaw Convention because, as a result, change is much more likely than if the issues are judged by judges, as they frequently are in the United States in these cases, demonstrating their disapproval of the system by findings not justified by the language.

As for your Thatcherite exhortation to buy British, it is fair to the airlines of many other states to say that the British adoption of special contracts is not unique. The difficulty for the passenger is finding out which airlines do and which don't have special contracts.

The abandonment of limits altogether would probably be the ideal special contract.

Underlying all this is the unreasoning fear of airlines that they will have to meet very much higher insurance costs than they do at present if they abandon limits or limits are abandoned for them.

Yours truly, PETER MARTIN, The Reform Club, Pall Mall, SW1, May 13.

## BBC standards and popular demand

From Professor Alan Thompson

Sir, The debate aroused by Howard Davies's question, "Do we really need the BBC?" (feature, April 26) should not be allowed to develop solely into a "public enterprise" versus "market forces" argument. The case for the BBC in my view is a separate issue from the "privatisation" debate. Furthermore, it would be damaging if the bipartisan support for the BBC given by all governments since 1927 (in spite of occasional confrontations over issues such as the General Strike and Suez) should be undermined. I do not challenge Mr Davies's right to query the BBC's programme budget. Financial scrutiny over any aspect of public spending, whether it be education, the social services, defence or the arts, is a highly proper activity for the public and politicians alike and there is no reason why media activities should be exempt. It must, however, be applied with some knowledge of the special nature of what is involved.

The BBC is fully aware of its responsibilities to secure mass audiences to justify the licence fee. This is not, however, to accept the argument that the costs of different types of programme should be directly related to audience appeal. The overwhelming achievement of the BBC, and subsequently the IBA, has been to respond to market forces in the wider context of cultural balance and development. It has aimed to improve standards and the level of public appreciation — a difficult task to reconcile with broadly giving people what they want.

It has taken nearly 50 years to do this, but it is a fragile achievement and could be easily swept away by a total surrender to "popular" taste. Priggish as it may sound, cultural enhancement is a worthy objective for a nation to pursue and the BBC's recognition is the subject of world-wide recognition and admiration.

It is significant that one of the strongest letters supporting the BBC has come from Michigan (May 5). I have taken part in broadcasting

seminars in Europe and America and have been so embarrassed by the praise heaped on the BBC that (as becomes an academic) I have had to cast around for points to criticize. Even the French admit that our broadcasting system is better than theirs.

Apart from the measurable benefits such as exports, the BBC remains an important flagship of British prestige and influence in the world. My own experience, which includes wartime service with propaganda broadcasting as well as peacetime involvement with the BBC, convinces me that we have an unrivalled capacity in this field.

As a projection of our national identity and purpose, the BBC operates to our considerable advantage in the world today. We have been quick to respond to the need for national self-expression in times of crisis. Why then should we attempt to undermine an organization devoted to such purposes in these times? Furthermore, the international reputation of the BBC is, in my view, inseparable from its domestic standards and purposes.

Some of these aspects are, as Mr Davies points out, difficult to measure. It is one thing, however, to point out that we must learn to measure the costs and benefits of public enterprise much more precisely: it is quite another to say that what cannot be measured is unimportant. This is one of the few points on which Adam Smith and Karl Marx would agree.

To sum up: what I am not arguing is that market forces are irrelevant or that cable television should be stopped or that broadcasting should be immune from public accountability. I am arguing that the BBC should stay in the business of mixing its output, with some element of cultural uplift, and that our overall national broadcasting system should be so constructed as to make this possible.

Yours faithfully, ALAN THOMPSON, 11 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh.

### Crisis in prisons

From Dr Stephen Shaw

Sir, It is easy to sympathise with the Home Secretary in his article entitled "Prisons: no easy way out" (May 5). Defeated by the judiciary, buffeted by many in his own party, and conspicuously lacking the support of the Prime Minister, Mr Whitelaw may well feel that he has made the best of an impossible task.

It would be churlish to deny that there has been a substantial shift from the practice of excessive secrecy which had hitherto characterised the prison department in its dealings with the media; but openness has been used highly selectively.

Where greater public awareness of the squalid state of our local prisons can be used to support the demand for more resources it has been exploited to the full. But in areas where the Home Office is less obviously the "victim" — for example, the continuing controversy over the standards of health care provided by the prison medical service — openness has been notably absent.

The "law and order" services have been well protected from the general restrictions on Government spending. Police pay and recruitment have rocketed and in the prisons we have embarked upon the largest building programme this century. But this achievement is double-edged.

The prisons we are building are too large, too expensive, sited in the wrong areas and, according to the recent report of the independent prison inspectorate, will make little or no impression upon overcrowding. There is mounting evidence to suggest that building more prisons and reducing the prison population are mutually exclusive objectives.

### Thieves abroad

From Mr J. W. Dickson

Sir, The recent correspondence on pickpockets reminds me of an anecdote concerning my grandfather, whose capacious waistcoat was adorned by a watch-chain. Having had one attempt made upon his pocket, he sewed into it a

number of fish hooks, and when the next thief took the bait he could not escape being taken straight to the police station.

Yours faithfully, J. W. DICKSON, Stow House, Westerfield, Ipswich, Suffolk.

## Taking care of Parish records

From Mr W. D. Pattinson

Sir, Two implications of Mr Duncan Harrington's challenging article of May 7, "Ensuring the future of parish records", require some riposte if the motives of parish clergy and Parochial Church Councils are not to be unfairly misconstrued in certain respects.

First, in those cases where parishes have not deposited their other records in diocesan record offices this is because they have satisfied the diocesan authorities that they are in a position to comply with the statutory provisions as to care laid down in the Parochial Registers and Records Measure 1978. It is not, as Mr Harrington seems to imply, because they are not "looked upon as part of our national heritage".

Secondly, although there cannot any longer be many parishes which receive "a not insignificant income from searches in their earlier records", those which do have such an income must be regarded as amply justified in recouping through search fees at least part of the cost of maintaining and supervising those records and thereby protecting them against deterioration, theft and careless use.

Having made these points, however, I support and welcome the main drift of Mr Harrington's article, namely, that the principal aim of the measure is to exert strong pressure on any parishes which have not deposited their records, and that in this it has largely, if not yet, entirely succeeded.

Yours sincerely, W. D. PATTINSON, General Secretary, The General Synod of The Church of England, Church House, Dean's Yard, SW1, May 10.

### Order of precedence

From Mrs K. N. M. Kross

Sir, I'm sure there are many of us who will miss the voice of George Thomas calling "Order, order" with all the gentleness, but firm discipline, of a father over unruly children.

Would it be within the realms of possibility that the BBC could keep his familiar voice as the introduction to *Today in Parliament*? Yours faithfully, K. N. M. KROSS, 27 Braemar Avenue, Old Moulsham, Chelmsford, Essex, May 12.

### Holding the line

From Mr Robert Gower

Sir, Holidaying in Cumbria earlier this month, my wife and I decided to take a return rail trip on the Settle and Carlisle line. Although it was an elating experience, we were both saddened by what we encountered.

On this route, recently described by British Rail itself as "the most spectacular main line in England", there are now two local trains daily in each direction. Freight traffic is being diverted to other lines. Consequently, the Settle and Carlisle is doomed to closure, the low receipts being conveniently overshadowed by the high maintenance cost of a line which represents the apex of Victorian railway engineering.

I am aware that a preservation organisation has been formed; their task is laudable, but forbidding. Cannot the line be given over to the care of the National Trust now, whilst it is still in working order?

Future generations should not only have the opportunity of enjoying train travel on a route with unrivalled views of the Pennines, but should be given the chance to appreciate at first hand the incredible achievement of its construction. Yours faithfully, ROBERT GOWER, Precentor, Radley College, Oxfordshire, April 29.

### Financial constraint

From Mr S. D. Patel

Sir, Ref Miss Ruth Ellacott (aged 8) and her difficulty getting her new £1 coin in the money box. I would like to make an observation that as a sub-postmaster of a village post office I received an initial supply of £500 in £1 coins. The demand for the same was so heavy that I ran out of stock in a couple of days.

Further, a very interesting aspect of this is that, since the launch of the new £1 coins almost a month ago, not a single £1 coin has returned to me over the counter as tender for payment.

Is this also the view of other financial institutions or am I thus to conclude that these coins, despite their shortcomings, have proved to be so popular and so quickly? I wonder!

Yours sincerely, S. D. PATEL, St Mary Cray TSO, 7 Mountfield Way, Orpington, Kent, May 12.

From Colonel (ret'd) F. M. S. Winter  
Sir, I went into a London clearing bank in Kensington on Thursday, May 5, and asked for 10 £1 coins and 10 £1 notes. There weren't any £1 coins.

I went into the same bank on Tuesday, May 10, and asked for 10 £1 coins and 10 £1 notes. There weren't any £1 notes.

Sincerely, FREDDIE WINTER, Veners Barn, Puttenham, Guildford, Surrey, May 11.





## COURT AND SOCIAL

### COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
May 14: The Prince Andrew today opened the 1983 Biggin Hill International Air Fair.  
His Royal Highness, attended by Squadron Leader Adam Wise, travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
May 15: By command of the Queen, the Lord of the Isles (Lord in Waiting) was present at Gatwick Airport, London this morning upon the departure of the Duke of Gloucester for Korea and bade farewell to his Royal Highness on behalf of Her Majesty.

By command of the Queen, the Lord of the Isles (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the departure of the King and Queen of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and bade farewell to their Majesties on behalf of Her Majesty.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
May 15: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Sandwich today visited Leicester and was received on arrival at East Midlands Airport by Her Majesty's Lieutenant for Leicestershire (Colonel A. Martin).

Her Royal Highness, as President of the Girl Guides Association, this afternoon opened the Leicestershire County Headquarters and visited the Girl Guides in Victoria Park.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Sandwich, as Grand President of St John Ambulance Association and Brigade, was present this evening at a gala performance held in the De

Menorah Hall, in aid of the Order of St John.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight, was attended by Lady Anne Tennant.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
May 15: The Duke of Gloucester attended by Sir Simon Bland left Gatwick Airport this morning to undertake engagements in Korea to mark the Hundredth Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Korea and Great Britain.

Upon arrival at the Airport His Royal Highness was received by their Excellencies Dr Young Hoon Kang, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea and Madame Kang, Sir Edwin Arrowood, Special Representative of the Secretary of State and Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Hon R. Cobbold, General Manager, Canby Pacific Airways, Mr Bailey, Director of Gatwick and Stansted Airports, Mr D. A. Clark, Property and Commercial Manager, British Airways Authority.

**YORK HOUSE**  
ST JAMES'S PALACE  
May 15: The Duke of Kent this evening attended a gala performance of *Rigoletto* at the London Coliseum.

Captain John Stewart was in attendance.

Princess Anne will open the Old Course Golf and Country Club, St Andrews, Fife, on June 30.

The Prince of Wales, Chancellor of the University of Wales, preside at a meeting of the court of governors and the honorary degree congregation at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, on July 22 and 23.

### Forthcoming marriages

**Mr J. E. Tomkins and Miss L. M. Lowther**  
The engagement is announced between Julian Edward, son of Sir Edward and Lady Tomkins, of Winslow Hall, Winslow, Buckinghamshire, and Lavinia Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Lowther, of Galsborough Court, Northampton.

**Mr D. B. Blakeway and Miss D. H. Johnston-Burt**  
The engagement is announced between Denis, only son of Mr and Mrs J. D. Blakeway, of Row Farm, Zeals, and Denise, youngest daughter of Commander C. L. Johnston-Burt, OBE, RN, and Mrs Johnston-Burt, of 29 Fairview Avenue, Chiswick.

**Mr T. J. Corkery and Mrs A. L. Wade**  
The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Major and Mrs Corkery, of Woodbury, Salterton, and Alicia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Egan, of Stabesbury.

**Mr P. A. C. Galle and Miss C. E. Little**  
The engagement is announced between Piers, son of the late Captain B. D. Galle, DSC, RN, and Mrs Galle, of Quinta Da Franca, Baga, and Patricia Susan, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John H. Mulholland, of Munroe, Connecticut, USA.

**Mr G. V. Farrell and Miss P. J. J. Johnson**  
The forthcoming marriage is announced between Graham Cochran, son of Mr and Mrs A. R. Murray, of Hongkong, and Patricia Susan, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John H. Mulholland, of Munroe, Connecticut, USA.

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**Mr N. A. C. Murray and Miss P. J. J. Johnson**  
The engagement is announced between Neil Alexander Charles, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. R. Murray, of Hongkong, and Patricia Susan, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John H. Mulholland, of Munroe, Connecticut, USA.

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## Mellow view from the vicarage

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The general election finds the churches in Britain more unhappy at the present state of secular British politics than they have been for a long time. There is something deep in the ethos of contemporary Christianity which instinctively prefers moderation and compromise to division and confrontation. As a recent straw poll in one Anglican diocese demonstrated, an Alliance government would be returned if the choice were left to churchmen.

The departure from the middle ground of the Labour and Conservative Parties, in each direction, could be interpreted as an implied judgment that the sort of policies favoured by the churches are not workable, and the real world is a harsher place than it looks from the vicarage windows. No one ever adds up all the proposals and suggestions which flow from the various sections of the various denominations, to see what they would look like as a political manifesto, or what economic policies they imply.

Religion has not always been automatically on the side of social harmony and consensus politics: it is a role which seems to accompany secularism, as if the churches themselves admit that religious differences are, and ought to be, too marginal to justify brother being set against brother in their name.

Equally dampening in its effect has been the now longstanding British Christian assumption that no party political tradition is more Christian than any other, and the devout can make their choice in good conscience. The Archbishop of Canterbury will give no election guidance to his flock, nor will Cardinal Hume to his. And there is a temperamental distaste for the animus of political argument, particularly when it is heightened by a general election.

This tone and mood has not come about as the result of deep theological or scriptural meditation: contemporary theology has not much to offer the philosophy of politics as practised in the secular West.

Politics is universally treated as the business of creating and distributing material blessings, and on this religion has little to say beyond that everyone should have a sufficient if possible. Most of the political thought which sometimes masquerades as theology is the product of the adoption of liberal humanist values, and

clothing them in religious language. Within the perimeters of organized religion in this country, there is really no other school of political analysis. Neither Marxism nor nineteenth century liberalism have more than a handful of fans.

Yet the churches remain the guardians of the national treasury of morality inherited from the past, and their presence in the community now and in the past is still the chief reason why the British prefer truth to lying, disapprove of cheating, and will stop the London Underground system to rescue one small child. The disappearance of the churches would eventually put all these values at risk. Possibly the secular humanist values which churchmen absorb from the civilization in which they operate, were planted there in the first place by churchmen of other ages.

Against this background, there is a distinct state of being nonplussed and a little irritated when Mrs Margaret Thatcher offers the nation not merely political, but moral leadership, saying without reference to the ecclesiastical powers that be, that the country needs to return to Victorian Christian values. A resolution in such terms has not

## OBITUARY

### MR KEITH LOMAS

Senior solicitor and T.A. officer

Mr Keith Lomas, who died on May 2, had retired only two days before as senior partner of Reynolds Porter Chamberlain, the firm of solicitors.

He was educated at Oundle and Trinity Hall, Cambridge. He was commissioned into the Leicestershire Yeomanry early in 1940, fought in the battle of El Alamein and was mentioned in despatches during the invasion of the south of France.

In 1948 Lomas qualified as a solicitor and became senior partner of Reynolds Porter Chamberlain in 1964. He developed a connexion with Swedish business in Britain, and was chairman of Astra Pharmaceuticals and on the board of Tetrapak U.K. and a number of other Swedish companies. In 1978 he became

President of the Swedish Chamber of Commerce.

Lomas rejoined the army as a territorial in 1950 and was the last Commanding Officer of the Hertfordshire Yeomanry. He fought hard to save the regiment's identity in the T.A. reorganization in 1960, and was the first Commanding Officer of the newly amalgamated Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Yeomanry. He later became Yeomanry Commandant of the Hertfordshire A.C.F. and finished his career as chairman of the East Anglian TAVRA.

He had been a Deputy Lieutenant of Hertfordshire since 1966 and for many years was treasurer of the Great Gaddesden P.C.C. He was an officer of the Swedish Royal Order of Vasa, First Class.

He is survived by his wife Margaret and four children.

### DR R. F. CURREY

Dr Ronald Fairbridge Currey, MC, who was Headmaster of St Andrew's College in Grahamstown, South Africa, from 1939 to 1955 and was known for his liberal views on race relations, died in South Africa on May 13 at the age of 88.

Currey was born on October 23, 1894, and was proud to recall that both his parents and three of his grandparents were born, lived their lives, and died in South Africa. After being at school for a short time at Diocesan College in Cape Town he went to St Andrew's College, Grahamstown, where his contemporaries included Bevil Rudd and Basil Schonland. Rudd became an Olympic athlete and Schonland in time director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell in Britain.

Currey spent three years at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, and then as a Rhodes Scholar went to Oxford early in 1913.

When war intervened Currey enlisted and was commissioned into The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders attached to The Black Watch from December, 1914, until he was wounded near Ypres in October, 1917. He was awarded the Military Cross and bar. Thereafter he spent two years at Trinity College, Oxford, reading "Greek".

He then began his long career as a schoolmaster. He was an assistant Master at Rugby for a year and was then at St Andrew's College, Grahamstown from 1922 to 1926. After three years as joint headmaster of the Ridge Preparatory School

in Johannesburg he became Headmaster (Rector) of Michael House College in Natal. He held that post until 1938, when he was pressed into taking the headmastership of his old school St Andrew's, where he remained for 17 years.

After that, to the surprise of many, he accepted the post of Headmaster of Ruzawi Preparatory School in Rhodesia, and held it from 1956 to 1961.

He retired in 1961 to live in Grahamstown where he acquired a charming old "Settler" house. There he and his wife Dorothy whom he married in 1924 created a civilized and active home in which they gave warm welcome to many friends from South Africa and overseas. Though by now 67 years old he became, and remained until 1965, a lecturer in classics of Rhodes University, of which he was made an Hon. L.L.D.

His history of the first 66 years of that University was published in 1970. That book and his history of the first 100 years of St Andrew's College published in 1955 bear the impress of his affection for both places and his lively style.

Currey was a deeply religious Anglican but not a conventional man. When moved by principle or whim he often enlivened, and sometimes shocked, those about him. His views were exemplified by the fact that as early as the 1930's he promoted close contacts between his pupils and those at a school for Africans.

He is survived by three sons, his wife having predeceased him.

### AUDREY DE VOS

Beryl Grey writes:

Audrey de Vos, who died on May 7, was one of Britain's foremost teachers of classical ballet and devoted her life to the teaching of dance.

An innovator, she had a deeply questioning mind and evolved a very personal style of training years ahead of her time. She took a personal interest in all her pupils, guiding them in their careers and inspiring them by her belief in the intuitive artist herself. She produced many professionals in

their roles, infusing each with a fresh and individual characterisation together with her love and respect for music.

Her hobby was sculpture, and indeed this was reflected in her approach to teaching. She was deeply concerned with the aesthetic appearance of a well trained and well controlled body allied to the inner motivation.

Above all she helped her pupils to dance with knowledge and confidence, and to communicate to others the joy and harmony of movement.

### MISS AVRIL WOOD

Ken Blakeley writes:

Miss Avril Wood formerly of the British Council, died in hospital on May 10. She was born in April, 1915, and was the younger daughter of Sir Henry Wood, Education at St Paul's Girls School, the Royal Academy of Music, and University College, London, was followed by service as a junior commander in the ATS from 1939-1945.

During the Blitz she drove an ambulance in London and later, in time for D-Day, was sent as a French linguist to an Army camp in Worthing which was to receive French musicians.

In 1946 she joined the music department of the British Council where she became deputy director to her great friend Miss Seymour Whinyles and subsequently head of the music section of the amalgamated drama and music department. Her work in particular was concerned with overseas students, most of them coming

to England for the first time. She was always ready to listen and her understanding and support reassured many a worried student.

She retired from the British Council in 1975. Because of her work and family background, she had an enormous knowledge of national and international musicians, both performers and composers. It was an enthralling experience to her talk about them.

She was a warm-hearted, caring and generous person, more concerned about others than herself and she retained those qualities and her cheerfulness even when she knew she was dying.

In recognition of her work, she was honoured by the Royal College of Music (Hon. RCM), the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (Hon. GSM), the British Council (Hon. Member) and the International Eisteddfod, Llangollen, (Vice President).

Signor Rodolfo Gucci, a member of the fashion firm known for its shoes, luggage and other accessories, died in Milan on May 14. He was 71.

After the Second World War Gucci began working with brothers in the firm long established in Florence. He previously had worked as an actor, appearing in several Italian films.

### Latest wills

Earl of Arran leaves £341,273

The Earl of Arran, of Abbots Langley, Hertfordshire, the journalist and broadcaster, left estate valued at £341,273 net.

Mr Harry Williams, of Stourbridge, West Midlands, left estate valued at £383,057 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Chester, Miss Adela Judith, of Bichanger, Essex, £211,337

Houghton, Mr Thomas Francis, of Leamington Spa, £230,385

Sauley, Mr Ronald Vernon, of Ilford, Essex, intestate, £263,891

Sear, Mr Gaius Bancheler, of Eggington, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, £237,217

Webb, Mrs Martha Emily, of Haxby, York, £430,121

**Lincoln's Inn**  
Mr Edward Lyons QC, has been elected a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn.



Family outing: The Queen with Princess Anne and her children, Peter and Zara, who celebrated her second birthday yesterday, at the Royal Windsor Horse Show. The Duke of Edinburgh was competing in the carriage driving event. (Show report, page 19).

### Memorial service

**Dr H. Pinner**  
The Bishop of Ely pronounced the blessing at a memorial service for Dr Hugh Pinner which was held in the University Church of Great St Mary's, Cambridge, on Saturday. The Dean of Trinity Hall officiated, assisted by the Rev S. Taylor. An address was given by Mr J. S. Morrison. Among those present were:

Dr H. Pinner (President), Miss J. Pinner, Mrs H. Pinner, Mr and Mrs G. Pinner, Mr and Mrs J. Pinner, Mr and Mrs K. Pinner, Mr and Mrs L. Pinner, Mr and Mrs M. Pinner, Mr and Mrs N. Pinner, Mr and Mrs O. Pinner, Mr and Mrs P. Pinner, Mr and Mrs Q. Pinner, Mr and Mrs R. Pinner, Mr and Mrs S. Pinner, Mr and Mrs T. Pinner, Mr and Mrs U. Pinner, Mr and Mrs V. Pinner, Mr and Mrs W. Pinner, Mr and Mrs X. Pinner, Mr and Mrs Y. Pinner, Mr and Mrs Z. Pinner.

### Church news

**Appointments**  
Canon J. Williams, Social Responsibility Officer for the Diocese of Exeter, will be in the Diocese of Exeter, Devon, on May 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31.

**Resignations and retirements**  
Canon R. A. Allen, Rector of St. Andrew's, Exeter, will be in the Diocese of Exeter, Devon, on May 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31.

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### Progress of legislation

**Dr H. Pinner**  
The Bishop of Ely pronounced the blessing at a memorial service for Dr Hugh Pinner which was held in the University Church of Great St Mary's, Cambridge, on Saturday. The Dean of Trinity Hall officiated, assisted by the Rev S. Taylor. An address was given by Mr J. S. Morrison. Among those present were:

Dr H. Pinner (President), Miss J. Pinner, Mrs H. Pinner, Mr and Mrs G. Pinner, Mr and Mrs J. Pinner, Mr and Mrs K. Pinner, Mr and Mrs L. Pinner, Mr and Mrs M. Pinner, Mr and Mrs N. Pinner, Mr and Mrs O. Pinner, Mr and Mrs P. Pinner, Mr and Mrs Q. Pinner, Mr and Mrs R. Pinner, Mr and Mrs S. Pinner, Mr and Mrs T. Pinner, Mr and Mrs U. Pinner, Mr and Mrs V. Pinner, Mr and Mrs W. Pinner, Mr and Mrs X. Pinner, Mr and Mrs Y. Pinner, Mr and Mrs Z. Pinner.

### University news

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A SPECIAL REPORT

# Factory Automation

In less than 10 years, the dream of an unmanned automatic factory freeing workers from the drudgery created by the industrial revolution has become a practical proposition.

Largely as the result of the microprocessor revolution, which has provided the new breed of technocrats with compact, versatile and, above all, cheap and powerful computer power, it is now possible to eliminate human hands from a wide variety of manufacturing and assembly operations in industry.

While the silicon chip may have had enormous impact upon communications and in commercial sectors like banking and insurance, arguably its most far reaching implication is in the factory. Little, if any, serious consideration has yet been given to the social upheaval that the first unmanned factory could create.

There is now a growing and authoritative bank of evidence that the new technologies can provide a company with the means to make a massive cut in production costs and at the same time give a blinding promise of superior and never-faltering quality. Even without total automation, manufacturers are realising that big cuts in manning and costs can be made by harnessing the power of computers.

The automatic factory - and it could become a widespread reality within five years - would be based on a computer-controlled system feeding customers' orders directly to the start of the manufacturing process. Raw materials and parts would be ordered automatically from the stores and delivered by driverless trucks to be picked up by robots.

The operation would continue with more robots feeding conveyors, transferring parts from one station to the next, servicing computer-controlled machine tools and carrying out inspection and monitoring procedures - all with unwavering precision - and finally packaging the goods and preparing them for despatch.

Most of these elements that will combine to produce the automatic factory already exist. The next, and, for the perpetrator, most lucrative step is the creation of the systems technology to bring them together.

Throughout the industrial world, advanced manufacturing

The unmanned factory could be a reality within five years, but has enough thought been given to the people it will inevitably replace?

Edward Townsend reports

systems are the focus of much governmental attention. Politicians, more than industrialists, have realised during the present deep recession that the nation that enters the next decade with the most efficient and widespread adaptation of the new technologies will be economically the most powerful.

Thanks to companies like General Electric and IBM of the United States and Fujitsu Fanuc of Japan, computer numerically controlled (CNC) machine tools have revolutionised manufacturing in recent years. Relatively inexpensive control systems have been developed for a wide range of machinery ranging from the humble lathe to highly sophisticated machining centres, the latter capable of working automatically on all sides of a complex component by boring, drilling, cutting and shaping.

And while the British machine tool industry once lagged far behind the Japanese, American

Catching up with the competition

and Germans in developing new equipment, the successful remnants are now catching up with the competition and there is probably little significant difference between the machine tools on offer. Only a marked resistance on the part of much of British manufacturing to utilize advanced technology keeps the country behind the times.

Not that this is the fault of the present Government or its agencies: millions of pounds of assistance are available to encourage companies to invest in the factory of the future, yet there has been little enthusiasm

from the rank and file of industry.

Farsighted machine tool companies like The 600 Group have spotted the long term advantages of advanced manufacturing systems and big, highly exposed, giants like Ford and BL have spent huge sums on robotics. Cars like the Ford Sierra and the BL Maestro are welded and painted almost without any human intervention.

But the widespread breakthrough at the small, batch production engineering workshop has yet to occur. Excuses include lack of confidence, poor support from the banks, high interest rates, low return on investment, severely depressed markets. The same could be said of other western countries - and many of them are showing Britain the way.

The Department of Industry has allocations of money to assist in the purchase of robots, the installation of flexible manufacturing systems (FMS) and, as part of the package announced in this year's Budget, advanced machine tools under the renewed £100m Small Engineering Firms Investment Scheme (SEFIS).

But in total, the Government appears to be giving industry more stimulus than it wants, or can cope with. Full order books, it seems, are a more potent force.

As a result, the UK will certainly follow rather than lead the United States and Japan in the use of new manufacturing technology, and probably much of Europe as well. Last year, American industry invested an estimated \$26,000m on factory automation systems and services and according to at least one forecast the figure could rise to \$100,000m a year within the next 10 years.

Much is being done in the

Showing what it can do: at the push of a button, a robot puts the last letter of welcome in place at ASEA'S factory at Milton Keynes

UK to stimulate interest and investment in advanced systems by the Government's British Technology Group which is concentrating its support on robotics, FMS and computer-aided manufacture. It believes that FMS, in which the Vickers-owned Kearney and Trecker Marwin (KTM) has been a leading light in the UK, will have a crucial impact on the future of manufacturing.

FMS is the nearest thing yet to the automatic factory. It means the linking of machines into groups, served by robots or computer-controlled equipment, to enable products to be machined or assembled in small batches at a cost equivalent to that associated normally with mass production.

Crucial to the concept of automation in manufacturing is the robot - not simply the

Machines that will make the decisions

moving arm that picks up and places components but the increasingly sophisticated "seeing" and even "smelling" machine that replaces the human worker. And in the forefront of such developments is the BTG-owned British Robotic Systems (BSRL) described as being at the leading edge of technology in the field of control and visual systems for robots.

Robots equipped with vision sensors have immense implications for productivity and quality and, because of their additional intelligence, will be able to make decisions ranging, according to BSRL, from assessing the quality of a surgical blade to the shape of a fancy cake.

But as the march towards greater automation quickens, the almost total lack of consideration being given to the people that will be displaced becomes increasingly evident.

"Automate or liquidate" may be a fine rallying call from the Department of Industry but it does little to assess the social effects. Societies would do well to ponder the recent prediction from America that by the turn of the century factory robots will be doing what seven million human workers do now.



## FLEXIBLE MANUFACTURING

### When even the experts are not sure

As recently as two years ago few people in industry or government had heard of "flexible manufacturing systems". Now the phrase has become something of a buzzword in the field of technology and factory automation.

The Government has adopted a £60m scheme to provide grants to help companies install flexible manufacturing systems. The world's first flexible manufacturing systems conference was held in Brighton last October, and the second, an even bigger event, is scheduled to take place at London's Hilton International Hotel this autumn, with delegates attending from all the leading industrialized countries. The subject even boasts its own magazine and newsletter.

The irony is that defining exactly what is meant by flexible manufacturing systems is something even the experts find difficult. They know what it is when they see it, but putting it into simple words is much harder - and even then not everybody's definitions agree. The Department of Industry acknowledges in its 17-

page guide to companies applying for grants that "a single workable definition of the term is... not possible".

In its specialized sense, the term is generally taken to refer to the application of computerized technology to machine tools employed in a factory production process. The flexibility lies in the ability of the system to control automatically a series of different machines, processes and components, all without human intervention.

It is, says the department in its best attempt at a definition, "a system which combines microelectronics and mechanical engineering to bring economies of scale to batch work". A typical system will have a central on-line computer, controlling the machine tools and other work stations as well as the transfer within the production process of components and tooling. The computer will also monitor and provide information about how the process is working. "This combination of flexibility and overall control", says the department, "makes possible the production of a wide range

of products in small numbers".

The kind of processes which are most suited to flexible manufacturing systems are such things as metal forming, metal cutting, component assembly and product finishing. It could involve one process or several, depending on the size of the company.

For example, a typical flexible system might involve the cutting of several different metal castings. An automated vehicle will pick up the castings, transfer them to a special pallet and move it to the work station where the computerized machinery will recognize what part it is, and automatically select the right tools for the cutting.

"Adaptability is the single most important thing about the flexible manufacturing", says Mr John Hampson, who is helping to organize this year's conference on the subject. "If your company has got mass production, then flexible manufacturing systems are not much help to you. But the vast majority of manufacturers do not have such big volumes. They have a great variety of

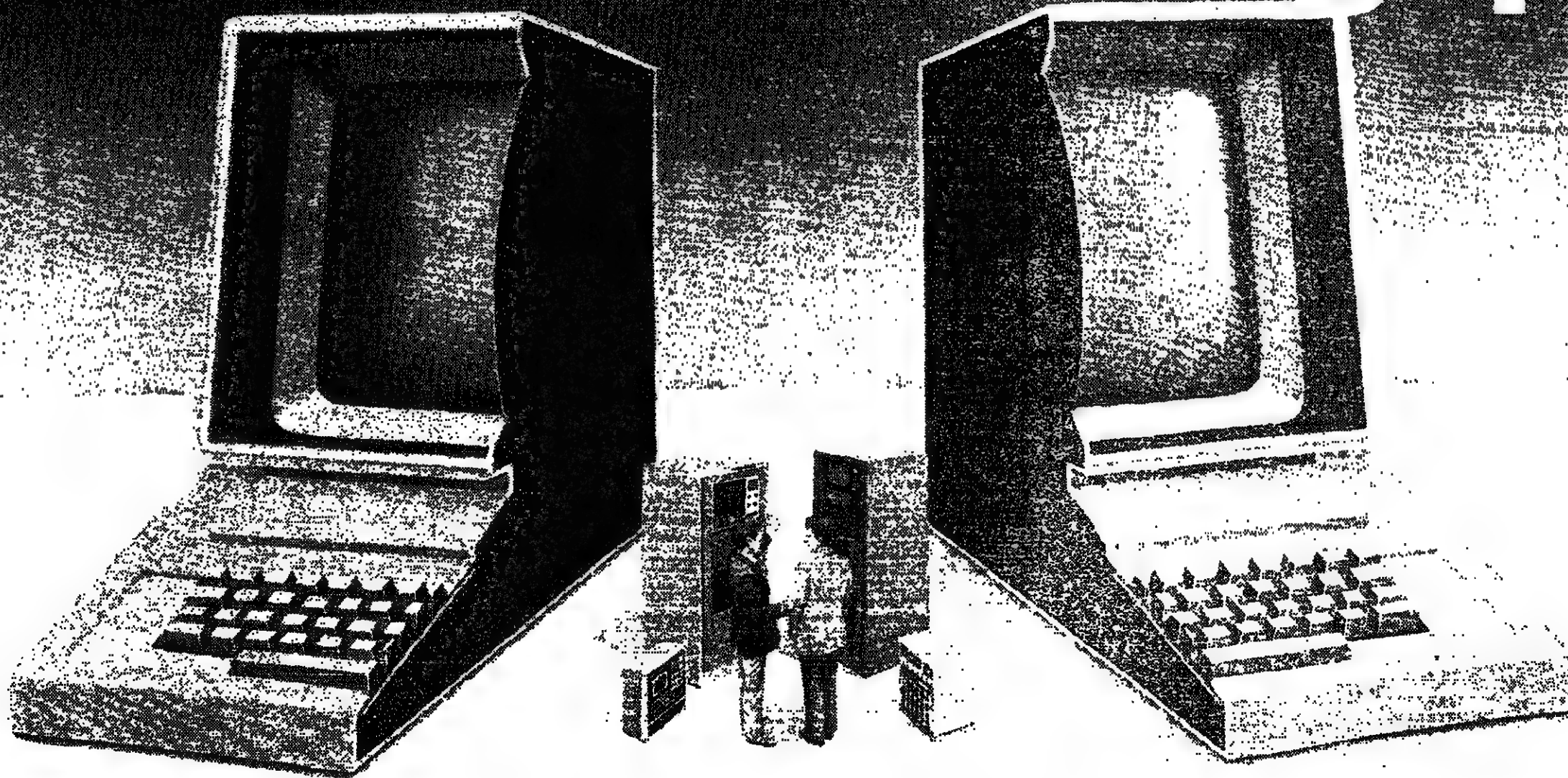
different small products, and flexible manufacturing is designed to help them."

As with other aspects of automation and computerized technology, the Government has decided that British industry needs to keep pace with a development in which - inevitably - the Japanese are widely regarded as holding a lead. So far only a handful of flexible manufacturing systems have been installed in this country. The most publicized application is that of the Normalair-Garrett firm in Crewkerne, Somerset, a defence contractor using a flexible system to help make components for an aircraft bomb release unit. Companies such as Vickers and the 600 Group are interested in manufacturing the systems, but so far the problem is as much one of ignorance among companies as to what is available as of a lack of capital to invest.

The Department of Industry's £60m package was launched last June by Mr Kenneth Baker, the Minister for Information Technology. The re-

continued on page 15

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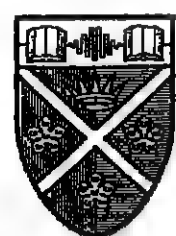
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## Heading into the age of 'touch and see' robots

All the publicity surrounding industrial robots should not conceal the fact that in their present primitive state they are still of limited appeal to manufacturers.

Last year's sales of robots in Britain amounted to less than £15m, according to the British Robot Association. The worldwide total was somewhere between £200m and £300m. Such figures show the production of robots to be a minor activity, in financial terms, compared to conventional machine tools and factory equipment.

Nor are the numbers of industrial robots impressive. Their total throughout the world is about 30,000 - one thousandth the number of unskilled factory workers. The British Robot Association Census put the UK figure at 1,152 by the end of 1982; we are fifth in the international league after Japan (13,000), the United States (6,250), West Germany (3,500) and Sweden (1,300), but just ahead of France (950) and Italy (700).

Although managements have sometimes been inhibited from introducing robots by conservatism, laziness and fear of the workers' reaction, they have not been adopted more widely principally because the "first generation robots" now on sale have limited capabilities. They are "blind, deaf, dumb, daft, one-armed bandits, screwed to the floor", in the words of Peter Davey, coordinator of the Science and Engineering Research Council's robotics programme.

Today's robots can - by definition - be re-programmed to carry out a different series of movements, but they do not have the in-built flexibility of "intelligence" to react to variable conditions by adjusting

their own actions. The next generation, which is under intensive development at dozens of academic and industrial laboratories throughout the world, will have "senses" - normally a video camera to give "sight" or pressure sensors for "touch" - feeding back information about the outside world; the robots' microprocessor brains will adjust their movements accordingly.

Of course the market for second generation robots that can cope with some disorder will be far greater. In assembly, for example, a vision system will enable them to pick parts out of a jumbled heap in a drum, while today's machines have to be fed components in a fixed position with exactly the right orientation.

Car manufacturers are now the biggest users because their production lines include many of the simple, repetitive and slightly hazardous jobs that suit robots so well, and tooling costs can be spread over several models of car by re-programming the machines.

(In West Germany the Volkswagen company has made 940 robots for its own factories).

Spot welding is the most frequent robot application today, followed by arc welding. Other important uses include paint spraying, injection moulding and placing components into machine tools.

Robots may be pneumatically, hydraulically or electrically powered. Hydraulics give the greatest strength - a long-armed robot can move more than 200lb within a working volume of 1,000 cubic feet. Electric power is more economical and accurate, especially in smaller robots and ones that stop regularly between movements, but it may bring an unacceptable risk of sparks in

some applications.

A conventional industrial robot has an arm with three degrees of freedom, to use the jargon of the industry, and a wrist with one to three degrees of freedom. Each joint contains a sensor to tell the microprocessor - the robot's brain - its position and movement.

The microprocessor compares the inputs from the joints (and perhaps also from other machines on the production line) with what its program says is the next desired position, and activates the appropriate motors. The computer is most simply programmed by actually leading the robot through the sequence you want it to follow.

A standard 8-bit microprocessor can cope comfortably

with the control of a first generation industrial robot. But far faster and more powerful chips will be needed to process all the information from the outside sensors built into the machines of the future.

Prototype robot vision systems are emerging from so many laboratories that it is rather invidious to single out any of them. However, British Robotic Systems (a London-based subsidiary of the British Technology Group) claims to be this country's leader in the application of robot vision in working industrial environments. Another small company, Computer Recognition Systems of Wokingham, says it is ahead in the art of image processing.

Touch may be a cheaper

sense to develop. Simple induction coils near the gun of an arc welding robot can detect the proximity of metal and guide the weld. Pressure switches can allow assembly robots to accept differences in the size of components without squeezing the bigger ones out of shape or letting the smaller ones fall through.

However, as the Department of Industry warns in its *Human guide to robots*, "it is easy to get carried away with plans for robots with ever more senses - hearing and speech could be added. The future will belong also to cheaper and simpler machines working on easier tasks."

Clive Cookson  
Technology Correspondent



A robot trolley takes the strain out of carrying engine parts on the assembly line at Fiat's plant in Turin. Right, how film makers saw the robot in 1956.



## Robots

# Britain mounts its counter challenge

Though Japanese manufacturers have no special edge in pure technological development of robots, they have been ahead of the game in working out a multiplicity of applications of current robotic systems. It is one of the reasons for a growing number of links between British companies and those in Japan, either to strengthen a British maker's existing range or to assemble or manufacture completely the Japanese robots under licence in Britain.

It is the biggest challenge facing Britain's indigenous robot makers and how the battle will go is still in the balance. In the earlier part of this year the signs were not too good, with the biggest all-British robot maker, Remek Microelectronics, one of at least two home-grown robot manufacturers, apparently fading into receivership, although with Remek that situation was due to change.

The British Robot Association was also reporting an increasing domination of the British market by foreign suppliers. Last year one in every

four industrial robots installed in Britain came from Japan compared with one in eight during 1981.

British-built robots took only 23 per cent of a market in Britain which had anyway shrunk more than 8 per cent compared with 1981. Then 370 robots were installed in Britain but only 339 were last year, although Britain is still fifth in the world robot population league.

British-made robots had accounted for 29 per cent of the 1981 market.

Of Britain's total robot population so far - 1,152 in place at the end of last year - a quarter were built in Britain, with US manufacturers selling in almost as many, the Japanese 14 per cent and the various European manufacturers, including the Swedes and the West Germans, together contributing 37 per cent.

A big importer is ASEA of Sweden, which has a distribution and exhibition centre at Milton Keynes.

The fruits of a number of licensing deals between British and Japanese interests have yet to mature. It means Japanese penetration of the British market - and probably the west European markets with the UK base used as a springboard - will almost certainly grow between now and 1985.

Anglo-Japanese links include those between General Electric Company (GEC) and Hitachi, Lansing and Hitachi, 600 Group and Fanuc, Butler of Coventry with Osaka Transformer Company, and Sykes Group with Daimichi Kiko.

The GEC-Hitachi link is among the more recent deals made between British and Japanese interests. At the turn of the year the two companies signed a licensing agreement for the sale and manufacture of industrial robots in Europe; for the first two years the robots will be Japanese-made although sold under the GEC label but in 1985 GEC plans to be manufacturing in Britain under the licensing arrangement.

GEC is already producing robots of its own, developed and made by its subsidiary, Hall Automation. These include the successful CompArm paint-

spraying robot, which has earned the nickname of the Heineken robot - so small and compact it is said to reach parts other robots cannot reach.

But the Hitachi robot was seen as a crucial and immediate addition to GEC's robot armory. Electrically driven, it can be fitted with limbs for use in welding, machine servicing and assembly. GEC's main sales target is the European car-manufacturing industry, its efforts now being brought under the umbrella of GEC's Factory Automation Systems Technology (FAST) Division.

The 600 Group has had a longer association with Japanese interests. Its SCAMP (600's computer-aided manufacturing project) flexible manufacturing system, unveiled at Colchester, Essex, at the end of last year, uses robots manufactured by Japan's Fanuc. Now a fresh step has been taken with a £200,000 agreement to set up a new company, 600 Fanuc Robotics, which plans to build a plant in Colchester to make robots for which Fanuc will supply the control units and motors.

Because SCAMP is operating at the leading edge of flexible manufacturing technology, the efforts of the 600 Group could

be crucial in developing the British challenge both in home and overseas markets.

While Department of Industry funding involvement in SCAMP allied to the Japanese connection has given rise to some criticisms from all-British robot makers, it has largely been regarded in government as a key step in constructing a credible robot manufacturing industry in Britain.

The Japanese apart, there is also a challenge to Britain's indigenous robot makers by the US, from where many of the technological breakthroughs in robotics have come. Some of the foreign robots used by Ford at Dagenham are those developed by US-based Cincinnati Milacron Simulation, part of the Rediffusion group, is to build and market at Crawley, West Sussex, a robot system developed by American Robot of Pittsburgh. Production - to start this year - could reach 150 units annually by 1986.

But the most notable example of the way foreign invasion can lead to manufacture in Britain, with all that means for creation of jobs, is at Telford in Shropshire. There Britain's biggest robot-manufacturing project so far, with 120

people turning out robots for both UK and European markets, is the result of technology imported from the US by Unimation, the world's leading manufacturer of industrial robots.

The Telford plant already accounts for by far the biggest slice of UK robot production and it is to be upgraded from being only an assembly plant. Under Unimation's plans, Telford will eventually become a centre of robot research and development, with a new £10m expansion plan now starting. Mr Joseph Engelberger, Unimation's president, believes that Telford will become the largest centre for robot development and manufacture in the EEC.

There is also a fresh wave of entirely British effort in robot-making. A reborn Remek is among those which should be making this new impact on the market this year.

When Remek Microelectronics, based in Milton Keynes, collapsed early this year it seemed to be an example of the sort of small organizations developing in the UK and elsewhere being crushed by the greater marketing power of large companies using foreign technology. Remek's key robot was designed to replace actions performed by the human arm and with an unusually high accuracy to within two-thousandths of an inch.

Now George P. Brown of Luton, Bedfordshire, has taken over the assets of the old Remek from the receiver. Brown's are large-scale industrial automation systems manufacturers and the Remek robot will be turned out at Luton, with the Milton Keynes centre doing some assembly work and robotic design.

Most of the key development staff from the old Remek have been taken on again, including Mr Roger Bidgood, joint managing director of the old Remek and now a director of the new company V. S. Remek. Three weeks after the new company started operations Mr Bidgood was reporting inquiries which could lead to a number of orders within three months. He added: "The recession world-

wide has slowed everything but things do seem to be more positive now so that a pick-up in trade seems probable later this year, although it may be a slow pick-up."

He believes a key to success is effectively dealing with the individual problems of those wanting to incorporate robots in their manufacturing systems. This means in developing exports, potentially the more fruitful area for British manufacturers, that there is a premium in finding good distributors abroad who understand the problems of installation when automation plans are being put through, says Mr Bidgood.

Several other smaller British companies are pressing forward with robot manufacture. Among them is Systems Control which entered the robotics field with desk-top toys but which is now, at Thornaby in Yorkshire, making production line and research and training machines, tapping markets abroad as well as in Britain.

Another is Pendar Robotics which has established a factory at Ebbw Vale in Wales. Its latest motor technology to give great accuracy in precision-assembly work was developed in conjunction with Birmingham University.

A British company breaking new ground is British Robotic Systems, which is funded and wholly owned by the state-backed British Technology Group. It is giving sight to robots, leading to a generation of machines whose movements depend on what is seen through "electronic eyes".

Another factor in the British challenge is the way that big engineering companies tend to develop their own robots as part of a drive into more automated factory systems. This has happened at Rolls-Royce at its Derby aerospace factory, involving preparation of turbine blades. EL Technology, part of the British car manufacturer, has claimed a world breakthrough with its development of a "sniffing" robot to seek potential leaks in cars.

Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor



Automatic spot welding in the car plant.

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مركز الأتمتة



FACTORY AUTOMATION

TOOLS

# When you can't beat them, join them

Britain's machine tool industry has been reduced to a flimsy shadow of its former self. When the nation had an empire, names like Alfred Herbert were respected and admired around the globe; today they have been overtaken by the new industrial giants, many of them Japanese.

British names are still respected (although Alfred Herbert has again gone bust), but the world emphasis has changed and the British industry is learning the painful lesson of the marathon runner - that once you are left far behind, it needs a superhuman effort to catch up with the leaders.

Herbert, in its hey-day one of the country's outstanding blue-chip engineering companies, called in the receivers at the beginning of last month with little hope of reducing its ever-mounting debt burden, which had reached £17m.

The industry's authoritative journal, *The Engineer*, said: "Alfred Herbert, one of the leading hopes for the British machine tool industry revival, appears to have become another gravestone marking the industry's continuing decline." It went on to restate the maxim that the industry will not generate sufficient income until it makes the right products.

The sad fact is that instead of leading Britain's manufacturing industry to economic recovery, the machine tool sector is lagging far behind its world competitors in terms of efficiency and competitiveness and is new looking for survival rather than expansion.

The automated factory of the future will require large numbers of sophisticated, computer-controlled machine tools, but only a handful of British companies, such as the 600 Group and Wadkin, are able to supply them. Much of the rest of the industry acts as an importer for foreign-produced wares.

The troubles of the industry

are deep-seated and historical. In 1970, sales of UK-manufactured machine tools totalled £455m (at constant 1975 prices) but by 1980 had fallen to £280m.

Because of their own declining fortunes, British engineering companies in the mid-1970s began to cut back drastically on purchases of machine tools, again setting in train the familiar feast-and-famine cycle that has bedevilled machine tool makers for the whole of this century.

The UK producers, however, appeared more ill-equipped than usual to cope with the downturn. Decades of highly conservative, paternalistic management meant that the industry could not react rapidly enough to the two-pronged attack it then faced. From one side came the growing likelihood of recession and the need rapidly to improve competitiveness and product ranges; from the other came the increasing might of the Far Eastern manufacturers.

In 1973, imports accounted for 35 per cent of UK machine tool sales. By 1981 the figure had bounded to 56 per cent, and in the 11 years to 1981, the numbers employed in the UK industry fell from 70,000 to 40,000.

Competition has been particularly aggressive from the cheap, standard machines from

the emerging industries of Taiwan and South Korea, and the high technology, numerically-controlled and computer-controlled equipment from Japan. Meanwhile, as the British Technology Group pointed out at the recent machine tool inquiry by the Commons Select Committee on Trade and Industry, too high a proportion of UK machine tool exports has tended to be low technology machines.

The BTG said that in 1980, imports of NC turning machines increased by 21 per cent and machining centres by 46 per cent, and the country had also become overdependent on imports of DC drive systems for machine tools and on foreign built NC systems.

BTG executives remain sceptical about the ability of the UK industry to survive without considerable continuing injections of public funds into new aid schemes. In a memorandum to the Select Committee, they said: "For both national security and economic reasons it is essential to have in the UK a healthy, forward-looking and soundly based machine tool industry. In order to achieve this, Government participation and support on a scale approaching that of the past 20 years is probably inescapable."

It added: "Government may also need to provide support, either financial or otherwise,

where there is unfair competition from overseas."

Certainly, the Government seems more interested in maintaining a machine tool sector than does much of manufacturing industry. The latter's shortsightedness in not replacing worn-out machines with modern, British machines has contributed greatly to machine tool industry's decline. Japan has built up its enviable export record on a stable and attentive home market; in Britain, manufacturers of machine tools have had to look to increasingly difficult foreign markets to provide not the icing but the cake itself.

In an attempt to help machine tools, the Department of Industry recently launched a second Small Engineering Firms Investment Scheme (SEIS 2) backed with £100m of grants and designed to encourage the sale of high technology machines. Within days of its post-Budget launch, applications flooded into Whitehall, but only 55 per cent of them were for help to buy UK machines.

Now, machine tool makers are taking a leaf out of the motor industry's book and forging stronger links with the Japanese. The first to do so was Bridgeport Textron, one of our few remaining companies to make a profit, which recently signed a deal to make small Japanese machining centres at its Leicester factory.

Such ventures probably are a signpost to the future if Britain is to maintain a credible machine tool making sector. Certainly the UK must have access to the most up-to-date technology if it is to take part in the economic upturn, which could be imminent. Frost & Sullivan, the New York analysts, predict that metal-cutting machine tool sales throughout Europe will almost double between now and 1990 to £7,440m.

ET

with big savings in time and materials. The result is that CAD is now used routinely by architects, pharmacists, car designers, planemakers, textile designers, shoe makers, chemical manufacturers, and machine tool producers, as well as those firms which developed it.

Anything that a draughtsman conventionally does using triangles, compasses, pencils and so on can be done with computer graphics programs that are available via a video screen. The next step, computer-aided manufacturing, CAM, was realized when aircraft makers used the design system also to produce coded instructions to feed directly to numerically controlled machine tools for cutting materials to shape.

Although the link between the design stage and the cutting machine is extremely important, there is a long way to go to achieve the vision conjured by CAD-CAM of the fully automated factory. That involves not just feeding instructions to individual cutting machines, but planning and controlling the flow of materials and components in an orderly stream. Mr Peter Marshall, the head of PERA's research division, estimates that fewer than 5 per cent of applications of this technology come in the CAD-CAM category, the majority only cover the design work. He believes even the best practitioners of CAD-CAM among the aerospace and electronic firms are still using a number of disconnected blocks or stages of operations.

He says factory methods may seem to follow a logical flow until the time comes to write computer programs describing them and, more important, linking them together in a sequence.

The association has devised its own system, PERACAM, for converting design data into manufacturing instructions automatically. Even this will not provide a completely automated system for a firm with a highly complex sequence of factory operations.

The complete merger of CAD-CAM is more difficult to execute on a large factory-scale than on a small one. Yet once a product design has been completed, all the subsequent activities concerned with converting that data into finished products or components can be completed more quickly by applying some level of CAD-CAM automation.

Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

## Flexible thinking

continued from page 13

sponse in terms of interest from companies has been considerable, although the allocation of funds has so far been limited. Seventy-five applications for financial support have been made, but there have been only seven offers of funds, involving commitments of £1.2m.

Announcing the scheme, Mr Baker said: "It is estimated that at least 70 per cent of the output of the engineering sector involves batch production and flexible manufacturing offers immense cost and quality benefits". British industry had been slow to apply flexible systems, however.

"Japan and the United States have around 30 systems each already in operation and more planned. Some companies in the UK have begun to move ahead into flexible manufacturing but not enough or fast enough".

The Government has ear-

marked £25m for research and development into flexible systems, but the other £35m is available for grants to companies. The scheme runs until 1985/6, and financial help falls into two categories.

The Government will pay 50 per cent of the cost of consultancy studies carried out by companies to find whether flexible manufacturing systems are suitable to their business, up to a maximum of £50,000. It will also pay up to 33 per cent grants towards development and capital costs of installing new machinery - and similar amounts to convert existing machines to a flexible system.

The minimum cost of a system necessary to make it eligible for financial support is £200,000, although more complicated systems will inevitably run into several million pounds. Despite this help, however, it is expected to take several years before flexible manufacturing moves from being what is still something of a futuristic concept to a routine feature of British manufacturing industry. A start has been made.

Jonathan Davis

SCIENCE

# The men who make the machines think

Ever since the first electronic computers were developed 40 years ago, a small group of brilliant scientists have been working away in attempts to endow such machines with the ability to think. That research into artificial intelligence is sometimes regarded as the most rarified of computer science.

Certainly, at first glance, there seems little in common between the ivory-tower researches of the academics and the real-world problems of the industrialist, particularly since researchers in artificial intelligence shoot off in another direction as soon as their experiments produce ideas which look commercially useful.

Yet the search for intelligent machines has produced many of the important practical advances in applying computers in commerce and industry: the development of visual and graphic displays, timesharing, computer aided design, and visual systems for robots are among them.

Furthermore, the outbreak of enthusiasm for flexible manufacturing, or the ultimate concept in factory automation described elsewhere in this report, only became possible because of the advances made in computer aided design, CAD, and computer-aided manufacturing, CAM, techniques derived from artificial intelligence research.

Before Mrs Thatcher announced the date of the election, CAD-CAM had become one of the blue-eyed technologies with which the Government hoped to see the transformation needed to revitalize British industry. A £6m



Clothes on the move in Steinberg's warehouse at Milton Keynes

awareness scheme was launched by the Department of Industry under its information technology programme to make sure everyone in industry knew about it.

The practical applications of CAD-CAM were perfected in the United States for the aerospace industry. Explo-

itation by the thousands of firms in Britain which employ less than 500 people, compared with more than 5,000, is not so easy without technical help.

Hence, an even more important government-backed service for the majority of industrialists is the CAD-CAM expertise provided by the Production Engineering Research Association, at Milton Keynes.

The computer-aided design part of the technology has proved profitable in innumerable applications, because it streamlines the design process

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Standard Telephones and Cables (STC) have been in Northern Ireland since 1962.

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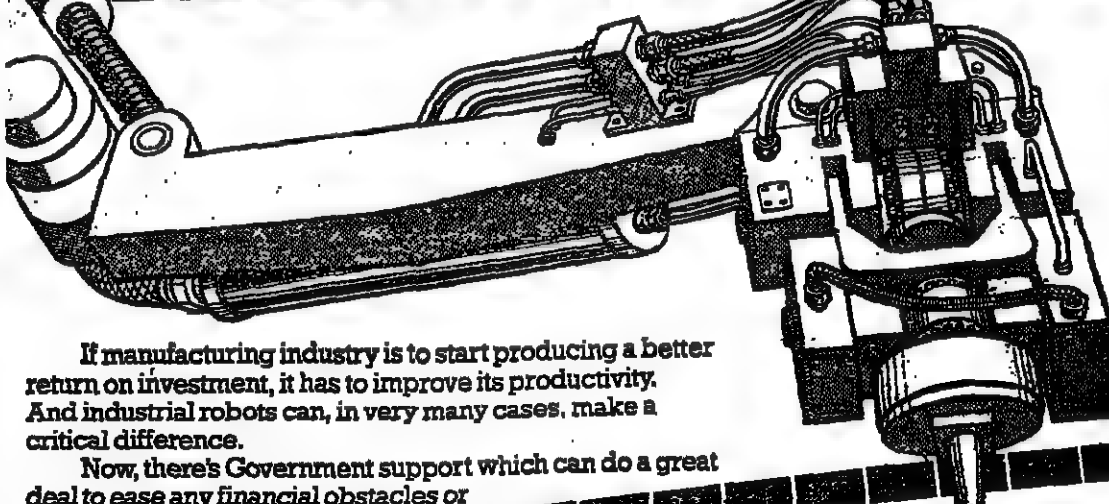
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A visit will convince you.



# What's it costing your company to ignore industrial robots?



If manufacturing industry is to start producing a better return on investment, it has to improve its productivity. And industrial robots can, in very many cases, make a critical difference.

Now, there's Government support which can do a great deal to ease any financial obstacles or technical uncertainties and see firms through the start-up period. No business is too small or too large to qualify.

Available through the Department of Industry, this support includes financial assistance towards feasibility studies carried out by consultants, investment assistance and financial support for all the associated costs of developing a new system.

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So, the improvements in productivity and competitiveness which could make all the difference to your company's financial performance are probably more accessible than you and your colleagues have been thinking. Don't you owe it to your future to find out more?

## Department of Industry

Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Division, Room 420  
Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6BS.  
Telephone: 01-212 0724

## Support for industrial robots at the AUTOMAN exhibition

We'd like to meet you, and talk about the use your firm could make of robots.

So we'll be on Stand 815 at the \*AUTOMAN exhibition, between 17 and 21 May

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\*National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.  
(Of course, if you can't make it, we'll be delighted to send you full details on request)



## Capitalization and week's change

9. Forward bearings are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock owned)

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شکستہ امرتال



## Investment and Finance

City Editor  
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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Telephone 01-837 1234

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 867.7  
FT 100 80.69  
FT All Shares 417.91  
Bargains: 14,045  
Tring Mail USM Index 168.4  
Telegraph Nikkei Dow Jones, 8829.51  
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index, 949.56  
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average 1218.75 (Friday's close)

## CURRENCIES

**LONDON**  
Sterling \$1.5670  
Index 83.9  
DM 3.8525  
FF 11.5325  
Yen 363.50  
**Dollar**  
Index 121.8  
DM 2.4438  
**Gold**  
\$441.25 up 62 pts  
**NEW YORK**  
Gold \$440.50  
Sterling \$1.5638 (Friday's close)

## INTEREST RATES

**Domestic rates:**  
Base rates 10  
3 month interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2

**Euro-currency rates:**  
3 month dollar 8 1/4-8 3/4  
3 month DM 10 1/4-10 1/2  
3 month FF 13 1/4-13 1/2

**ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling**  
Export Finance Scheme IV  
Average reference rate for interest period April 8 to May 3, 1983 inclusive: 10.304 per cent.

## BOARD MEETINGS

**TODAY - Interims:** Assets Special Situations Trust, Bellway, Matthew Brown, Grand Metropolitan, Radio City (Sound of Merseyside), Thomas' Nationwide Transport (quarterly), Unilever (first quarter), United Scientific Holdings, Finsale Anglo, American Coal, Ex-Lands, Exel Group, John Foster and Son, Gears Group, Gold and Base Metal Mines, John C. Small and Thomas, Thomas' Warrington and Sons, Wicks Associates.

**TOMORROW - Interims:** Allied London Properties, Thomas' (Borthwick and Sons, General Accident Fire and Life Assurance (first quarter), Majestic Investment, Wintland Investment Trust, Finsale Amos Hinton and Sons, Gieves Group, London and Lennox Trust, Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, Walter Rindman, Wearwell, Whitbread and Company.

**WEDNESDAY - Interims:** Carnvermore, Irish Distillers Group, Northern Industrial Improvement Trust, NSS Newscasters, Finsale: Advance Services, Ambrose Investment Trust, British-Borneo Petroleum Syndicate, Charrington and Hill, Hartwells Group, Usher Walker.

**THURSDAY - Interims:** Construction Holdings, Higsons Brewery, Phillips' Lamp, (first quarter), Poly Park, Redman, Heenan International, Royal Dutch Petroleum Co NV (first quarter), Shell Transport and Trading Company (first quarter), Stenhouse Holdings, Wintland Investment Company, Wintland Ce Heath, Land Securities, London Atlantic Investment Trust, London Trust, Monks Investment, Roper, Selincourt, TR Natural Resources Investment Trust.

**FRIDAY - Interims:** Management Agency and Music, Finsale: Hebenham, A Goldberg and Sons, International Paint, Suter.

## TDC moves for London listing

TDC, the Japanese recording tape company, is going ahead with its application for a London listing. Institutions are being briefed today with a meeting with Stock Exchange's quotations committee on Wednesday-dealings are expected to start a week on Friday.

TDC, which is already quoted in New York, Paris and elsewhere, has market capitalization of \$2,200m. Its business is international and it wants its shares to be held internationally. It manufactures in Japan, Taiwan, Brazil and the US with 43 per cent of its sales outside Japan.

Sales for the year, which ended in November, were \$1,300m, an increase of 12.8 per cent. Profits were \$121m, an increase of 6.2 per cent.

**ECONOMIC FORECAST:** A cheerful forecast for the UK economy comes today from the Charterhouse banking group. It predicts a "soundly based" economic recovery with output rising at 3 per cent a year by the end of 1983, enough to start bringing employment down. The group says although the upswing is likely to be slower than in the past, it will be more sustainable with less chance of causing faster inflation.

**TRADE-IN OFFERS:** Singapore Airlines (SIA) said it is studying offers from three aeroplane manufacturers to trade its existing aircraft, plus cash, for newer models. A spokesman said SIA is studying "trade-in sale" offers from Boeing, Airbus Industrie and Douglas Aircraft as part of its fleet renewal plan.

## Sotheby's US bidders press on

By Jonathan Clare

The two Americans who bid for Sotheby's Parkes Bernet are to carry on with their offer despite the unexpected reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission against the advice of the Office of Fair Trading.

The two, Mr Marshall Cogan and Mr Stephen Swid of Knoll International, hold 29.9 per cent of Sotheby and their offer values the auction house at \$61m.

Mr Cogan hopes to get the US Securities and Exchange Commission to reconsider an ambiguous 1974 ruling to make it clear that allegations about an infringement of SEC rules are unfounded. Mr Cogan settled in 1984 by signing a "consent decree", which meant he did not admit guilt but promised not to repeat the alleged offence.

If successful, it would rob opponents of the Cogan-Swid bid of some of their ammunition.

It would also mean the two compared favourably with any "white knight" that the Sotheby board may produce. The board says it has found a counterbidder, whose identity is yet to be revealed. Mr Carl Kahn, a US dawn-raider, is widely believed to have shown an interest. Another likely possibility is Mr B. H. Trupin.

Mr Trupin was revealed last week in *The Times* as the buyer of the Hever Castle suit of Milanese armour which fetched a record \$1.9m.

A stake has been built up by someone in Sotheby shares apart from Mr Cogan and Mr Swid but it remains below 5 per cent.

## Posgate to sue Howden four

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Ian Posgate is suing four former directors of Alexander Howden to ensure a public airing of the facts surrounding the scandal of misappropriated insurance premiums.

Yesterday, Mr Posgate said he was taking legal action so that it would be impossible for Alexander Alexander, the US owner of Alexander Howden, to recover of funds, to reach a private settlement with the four men.

"By doing this and sticking with it everything will be aired in court," he said.

Alexander & Alexander has sued the four and Mr Posgate for the return of \$55m (\$35m) which it believes was channelled from Howden to offshore re-insurance companies.

A settlement between the four directors and Alexander & Alexander would leave Mr Posgate out in a lurch.

But contrary to the impression given by Sunday newspaper reports, Mr Posgate has not started his proceedings with the support of Alexander & Alexander with which he is already involved in a counter-action.

Mr Ken Grob, the former chairman of Howden, said yesterday the matter was being put into his lawyer's hands but could not comment on whether he and his former colleagues might reach a settlement with Alexander & Alexander.

The four have already repaid \$26m of a \$29m claim under the agreement continuing this clause. Alexander & Alexander may be prepared to make a final settlement on payment of, say, another \$10m.

Mr Posgate is suing the four on exactly the same grounds as Alexander & Alexander: "I'm suing for a straightforward cash sum. It means Alexander & Alexander cannot go away."

It also means that Mr Posgate will be able to cross-examine Mr Jack Bogardus, Alexander & Alexander's president, as well as Mr Grob and the other directors - Mr Ron Conery, Mr Jack Carpenter and Mr Allan Page.

The four have already repaid \$26m of a \$29m claim under the agreement continuing this clause. Alexander & Alexander may be prepared to make a final settlement on payment of, say, another \$10m.

His next term, which begins on June 16, is likely to be even more important. In his newly enhanced role, M de Larosiere is certain to continue the strict

By Our Financial Staff

The takeover battle for Key Markets, the 106-strong supermarket chain owned by Fitch Lovell, intensified over the weekend when Linfood said that it would match an increased offer from Safeway.

Safeway said on Saturday that it was prepared to pay £40.8m for the chain, its earlier offer of £34.8m had won the approval of the Fitch Lovell board and chairman, Mr Michael Webster, in late April, but was topped last Thursday by Linfood with an offer of £37.8m.

Linfood's chairman, Mr Alec Monk, was reported over the weekend as saying that he would match the latest Safeway offer. Yesterday he was said to be attending meetings in London, and a company official said that he was likely to write to shareholders later this week.

The Fitch Lovell board also spent most of yesterday afternoon in a meeting.

Mr Monk's willingness to



Fitch's Webster (left) and Hankins: Going for the

commit himself to an increased offer for Key Markets makes it unlikely that Linfood will renew its bid for the whole of Fitch Lovell. It launched a £72m offer for the company last September, and finally received the go-ahead after a report from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission last week.

Now, however, Mr Monk has



Fitch's Webster (left) and Hankins: Going for the

said he will pay half the total of his original bid for just one part of Fitch Lovell, which suggests the purchase of the Key Markets chain was his prime reason for launching the offer. He is also said to be worried about issuing his shares, which he feels are undervalued, to buy the highly-rated Fitch Lovell.

Although the two bids would

## Tactical battle expected before vote on Friday

## Linfood to match Safeway's new £41m offer for Key Markets

be of equal value, Safeway currently has the support of the Fitch Lovell board, which is believed to be concerned that if Linfood successfully blocks the Safeway deal, then it might still renew its bid for the whole group.

Fitch is also concerned to push the sale through quickly: its shareholders meet on Friday to vote on it. There is a danger that if it opted for Linfood's offer at this stage, it might be withdrawn or vetoed by shareholders later on, leaving Fitch Lovell with no deal at all.

The stage is now set for a tactical battle in the run up to Friday's meeting. Linfood has asked Fitch Lovell for access to detailed information on Key Markets, but this has so far been denied - apparently at Safeway's insistence.

But even without further knowledge, it is expected to press its bid and attempt to persuade the Fitch Lovell board to adopt a neutral stance, and

leave it to shareholders to choose which offer they prefer.

Mr Monk is also expected to renew his efforts to meet the Fitch board or its chief executive, Geoff Hankins, in an effort to reduce the tension between the two groups.

Fitch Lovell has asked shareholders to return proxy forms allowing the chairman to vote on their behalf, either for the Safeway deal or for an adjournment of the meeting. Linfood, on the other hand, has already circulated shareholders and asked them to block the Safeway deal.

**AGENCY DEAL:** Foote Cone & Belding London, a subsidiary of Foote Cone & Belding Communications, said it has reached agreement to acquire a majority interest in Garratt Baulcombe. Terms are not disclosed. Garratt Baulcombe, a full service advertising agency, was founded in 1960. The agency has offices in Nottingham and Manchester.

## City Comment

## Pinball wizard at the Fed

American money policy is in a mess. The target money measures have been so grossly distorted by financial deregulation and the introduction of new financial instruments, such as interest-bearing current accounts, that no one knows what they mean.

They have ceased to bear, if they ever did, any stable predictable relationship with nominal national income growth, the ultimate policy goal for which money targets are simply an intermediate tool.

Yet, though the Federal Reserve Board has said it is paying less attention to money growth while distortions persist, it has failed to put any coherent policy rule in its place. The result is that the financial markets are baffled about what the Fed is trying to do.

Every economic trigger - the latest figures on inflation, money growth, output - touches off a gut response in the markets as they try to sense how the Fed will respond. And there must be a suspicion that this is what the Fed is doing - to - the pinball wizard approach to policy, as Mr David Morrison, of the stockbrokers Simon and Coates, characterizes it in a paper out today.

Mr Morrison, who estimates that interest rate volatility has doubled since the Fed introduced its new money control procedures in 1979, believes that rates and volatility will stay high unless the Fed changes course.

Having instilled into the markets the firm conviction that the pace of money growth determines inflation, however, Mr Paul Volcker, the Fed's chairman, faces a tough job to convince them that the money numbers are no longer critical. His task would be easier if he had something sensible to put in its place.

## Boom in car sales 'set to end soon'

By David Young

The boom in UK car sales - fuelled by easier hire purchase and sales incentives - will end in the second half of the year, according to a survey published today by DRI Europe.

By then, the survey says, the present buoyant sales will run out of steam and will lead to a "playback" next year, when sales will fall by an estimated 30,000 units.

DRI says that their forecast of 1.68 million car sales this year is at least 70,000 more than underlying economic performance would suggest and point out that British manufacturers are far from happy with the profit implications of the incentive measures.

Stability should return to the market with the gradual recovery of the economy with DRI expecting a return to a more "natural" level of sales and consistent growth until 1988.

The survey adds that industrial unrest still hangs over the industry, although it adds that the success of the Metro and Maestro have transformed B.L.'s short-term position. The recent fall in sterling has underpinned the Maestro's competitiveness in a sector of the European market where B.L. has traditionally been weak.

For Europe overall, energy,

unemployment and prices will be the main issues affecting car purchase over the next five years. With sales falling in France and Italy, total European sales and production will be down on last year's total.

DRI also says that recent spending by the European industry on product development has resulted in overcapacity which will make it difficult for some companies to earn an adequate return on this investment.

The European market will reach a peak of 11 million cars by 1988, with consumer confidence and a recovery in 1984 and 1985.

In Germany, the underlying strength of the country's industry will reassert itself after 1985 with momentum continuing until 1988.

In the short-term the outlook for the economy and unemployment argue against a rapid turnaround in demand for cars with the level of registrations in 1981 not being succeeded until 1985.

DRI expect an average of 55 per cent of German cars to be exported by 1988, compared with 49 per cent in 1980. The German specialist car makers are expected to be the most dynamic.

## NEW CAR SALES

	1983	1984	1988
West Germany	2.22	2.27	2.54
France	1.9	2.2	2.06
UK	1.88	1.86	1.71
Italy	1.81	1.70	1.72
Western Europe total	10.00	10.30	11.09
USA	9.01	10.34	11.36
Japan	3.13	3.20	3.28

## CAR PRODUCTION

	1983	1984	1988
West Germany	3.83	3.73	4.13
France	2.80	2.76	2.04
UK	1.00	1.01	0.98
Italy	1.40	1.49	1.58
Western Europe total	10.41	10.78	11.50
North America (incl Canada)	7.17	8.13	8.83
Japan	7.08	7.58	8.05

DRI World Auto Forecast Report £200 or \$1,800  
DRI Europe, 30 Old Queen St, London SW1H 9HP.

## More disclosures urged on company pensions

By Our Financial Staff

Shareholders would get substantially more information on the solvency and possible cost of pension schemes run by their companies under a new accounting standard proposed today by the Accounting Standards Committee.

The proposals unveiled for discussion would require public companies to explain first what kind of scheme they run for the benefit of employees, and whether it is run with the advice of a qualified actuary.

In a note to the balance sheet, the company would have to

disclose the effect on profits of pension fund contributions, and whether these were normal or exceptional charges. Any plans or commitments to change the level of contribution which the company pays into the fund would also have to be disclosed.

The proposals are open for comment until November 30. As outlined and taken with the requirement for increased information included in the Companies Act 1981 they represent a significant increase in the required level of pension fund disclosure.

Private, some officials in financially strapped Third World countries complain that under M de Larosiere, the IMF, in its role as lender of last resort, has imposed such severe conditions on their stagnant nations that political revolutions are a strong possibility.

Some would like the IMF to relax some of its conditions to allow debtor countries to top up their economies in order to

create more employment. But this is unlikely during the reign of M de Larosiere, a former director of the French Treasury.

M de Larosiere's reappointment last week was virtually unchallenged by members of the IMF's board of executive directors, partly because of his success in convincing commercial banks to continue lending to the big debtor countries.

The representatives of the 146 IMF countries, along with officials of the powerful Western central banks, have been impressed by M de Larosiere's success in preventing countries from defaulting over the last eight months.

His critics within the IMF are outnumbered by supporters, who not that it was M de Larosiere who promoted a more flexible policy of longer loans that had been typical when he was named managing director in 1978.

## Flat results likely from Unilever

By Our Financial Staff

Flat profit and sales figures are expected from Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch margarine and detergent group, when it reports first quarter profits today.

Although the US subsidiary is at last showing a better performance the improvement has been offset by higher promotional spending.

European volumes may have been hit by lower exports to Nigeria, and worse results on translation into sterling from countries like Brazil after accounting changes are expected.

Heavy exceptional costs from rationalization are expected again, but productivity gains should be at about 5 per cent.

Combined first quarter profits of the group should be between £160m and £185m, compared with last year's £179m. Full year results are expected to be between £750m and £790m, against £725m.

The shares have seen some weakness after the company's forecast of little economic improvement this year and worries about first-half volume sales.

## OTC regulations sought

By Our Financial Staff

The seven licensed dealers which make an "over-the-counter market" in about 30 stocks of small companies are trying to bring some ground rules into the business.

Included in the self-regulation measures would be procedures for resolving disputes, a compensation fund, minimum liquidity requirements for members of a new trade association, disclosure requirements for companies

quoted and a requirement for all members to deal in all the stocks.

Granville (the old M J H Nightingale) the best-known member of over-the-counter markets, is not involved - it has exclusive rights over the stocks in which it deals.

Many companies traded over-the-counter would be unable to meet either the requirements of a full listing

## Banks and retailers haggle over computer cards bill

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Retailers and the big clearing banks are at loggerheads over a working party of retailers who should pay for a country-wide network of electronic terminals for payments at the counter by plastic card.

Millions of pounds, which will have to be spent on providing the terminals, are at issue. The banks' project team, which has been investigating the possibility of electronic funds transfer systems at the point of sale, has suggested that costs could be around £800 a terminal. A further systems connection charge might also be levied.

In most stores it could mean having a terminal at every cash point or supermarket checkout. There have already been

preliminary talks between a working party of retailers coordinated by the Retail Consortium - the trade body for most United Kingdom retail interests - and the clearing banks.

But the crunch will come after a final decision, expected this summer, from the banks on whether they will go ahead with the terminals plan. It would mean putting in extensive computerization because the system would allow a customer's account to be debited for the shopping bill and the retailer's account to be credited.

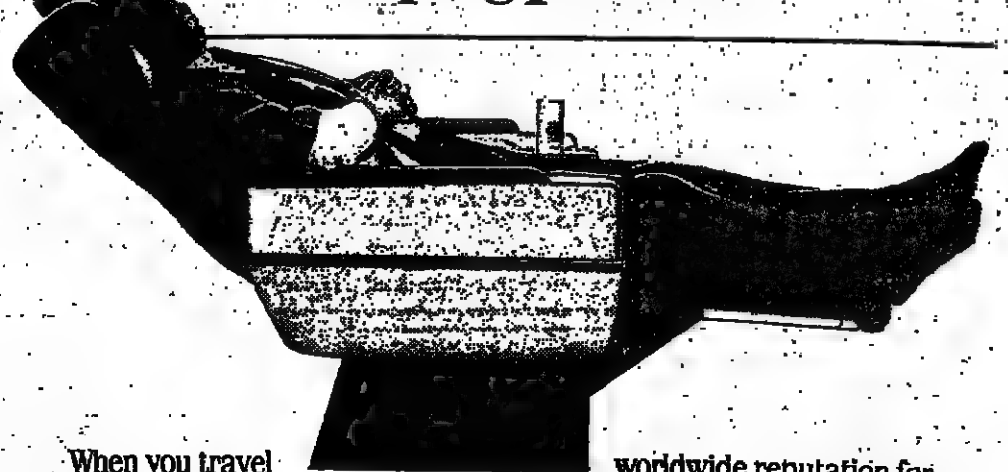
The banks appear to be considering bringing in the system for even small retail outlets whose terminals could

be linked with the banks' computer network by telephone line. Small retailers are unlikely to be asked to pay immediately for terminals but would instead pay an annual charge to wipe off the cost.

If the banks decided to go ahead this summer and terms were agreed with retailers, the first terminals would probably be in the shops by 1985. The banks' project team is apparently envisaging 100 terminals doing 500,000 transactions in 1985.

The project team is arguing that retailers should foot the bill for the system because it would save a retailer 7p on the cost of collection on a traditional cheque.

## Japan Air Lines have a first class opportunity for a sleeping partner.



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# The marathon men get a second wind and finish up with a sprint

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

About a third of the 92-strong field in the Football League marathon, a handful of whom were in danger of not even seeing out the course, emerged as no mean sprinters at the mass finish on Saturday. Not that the race is all over: three of the runners have yet to breast the tape.

Crystal Palace and Burnley have another 90 minutes to go. A substantial dooby prize, relegation to the third division, awaits the loser at Selhurst Park tomorrow night, while the winner (a draw would suffice for Palace) survives. Manchester City fell four minutes away from safety and Fulham, after thinking they had completed their 63 playing hours at the end of their forty-second match, consider they have been left 78 seconds short.

While Fulham are appealing to the League today for a replay against Derby County, Foster will be taking to the High Court his case for continuing in Brighton's colours in the FA Cup Final next Saturday. It seems appropriate that such actions should end a moderate season during which commentators, pundits, referees and secret gatherings have been set up as regularly as refreshment points along the way.

Little has been achieved by the authorities during those meetings. The League chairman's decision to drop most of the Chester report's recommendations and their delay over the television proposals were as disappointing as the League's decision to continue to be limited for as long as the "blocking machine of great power", as Jack Dunnett, the League president himself, describes the voting system, is allowed to be as restrictive as cramp.

But there is reason to believe that two of the League's recent and welcome innovations have given the game a second wind. The reward of an extra point for a win, introduced two years ago, meant that many of Saturday's matches were as decisive as cup ties, knock out contests similar in effect as the play-off system which Sir Norman Chester's assistants suggested would maintain interest until the end.

The increase in the punishment for deliberate fouls, brought in this season, has also assisted forwards and contributed to the goals total which threatens to be the highest for 15 years. Only the fourth division failed to improve but the overall figure is already more than 300 up on last year. Next season, if Canon (UK) Limited, the photographic manufacturer, are confirmed as the League sponsors, accurate shooting will be financially rewarded as well.

## How they finished

**FIRST DIVISION:** Champions: Liverpool. Runners-up: Watford. Relegated: Manchester City, Swansea, Brighton.

**SECOND DIVISION:** Champions: Queens Park Rangers. Also promoted: Wolves, Leicester. Relegated: Bolton, Nottingham and Millwall Crystal Palace.

**THIRD DIVISION:** Champions: Portsmouth. Also promoted: Hull, Peterborough, Reading, Wrexham, Doncaster, Chesterfield.

**FOURTH DIVISION:** Champions: Walsley. Also promoted: Millwall, Port Vale, Scunthorpe. To seek re-election: Hartlepool, Crewe, Hereford, and other Darlington, Blackpool, Tranmere and Rochdale.

**SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION:** Champions: Dundee United. Runners-up: Celtic. Relegated: Morton, Kilmarnock.

**FIRST DIVISION:** Champions: St. Johnstone. Also promoted: Hearts, Falkirk, Dundee, Queen's Park.

**SECOND DIVISION:** Champions: Brechin. Also promoted: Montrose.

Liverpool, for instance, would have gained £6,500 for being the leading marksmen in the first division, not to mention £50,000 for winning the championship. Watford would have been £25,000 the richer as the runners-up.

The contrast in their styles was evident at Vicarage Road on Saturday. Liverpool are experienced and orthodox. Watford are inexperienced and unorthodox. Although the outcome has relatively little bearing on the present, it should have offered an insight into the future. But Liverpool, in spite of Johnston's fortuitous strike on the hour, closed Bob Paisley's incomparable career with the worst run since he took over nine years ago and, if anything, confused the picture.

After their early rush (a capital R would be apt) Liverpool were so far ahead of the field that, as it turned out, they could have stopped before the end of March, with almost a quarter of the race remaining, and still taken the title. But it is unlikely that to falter and Paisley's departure may interrupt the smoothness of their stride.

His successor is expected to be appointed after their tour to Israel and the favourite is Joe Fagan. He will inherit an enviable record and an enviable squad that has only one apparent weakness. The erratic Grobbelaar, who threw away Liverpool's European Cup ambitions, also cost them victory here by failing to gather Blissett's prod early in the second half.

Watford's critics within the game readily concede that their team are awkward opponents. Their 2-4-4 formation goes against the current pattern as fundamentally as if athletics chose to run backwards. Many expected them to blow up but their pace has been as steady as it has been fresh. If others follow their example, though, midfield would become largely a forgotten land.

Youngsters are encouraged by Watford (this season Sterling was introduced and Barnes confirmed himself as one of the most exciting prospects in the country) but here they owed their victory partly to a representative considered a has-been. Patching is appropriately named. After his right knee had twice been cut open and sewn up he was advised to retire; but he put that same knee to lethal use as he ran on to Blissett's through ball and shot Watford ahead before the interval.

Europeans in the UEFA Cup will soon find Watford even more troublesome. If Don Howe feels that Petrovic could not cope with the comparatively slow pace of Arsenal's method, imagine how Petrovic's former Red Star Belgrade colleagues, for example, would fare against Watford. Inexperience, particularly away from home, where their record was worse than Luton Town's, may prove their undoing.



Slump in Manchester: Benson and Book down on their luck.

# Why City will not play their dead end kids next season

By Clive White

**Manchester City**.....0  
**Luton Town**.....1

The temptation is to talk of fairy tale endings, a vindication of the brave, if sometimes naive, attacking football of David Platt's Luton Town, but this would be to ignore the tragedy of Manchester City, who after 17 years sank like the Royal Oak into the cold waters of the Second Division.

A crowd of nearly 43,000 - the biggest of the day by 10,000 - saw her go down in a situation of pure fiction, torpedoed four minutes from the safety of harbour by a Yugoslav sub.

Remarkably, thousands cheered Manchester City at the finish, though large numbers of supporters screamed for the blood of the chairman, Peter Swales. It is impossible for City supporters to forget the wicked and wild extravaganzas of Malcolm Allison and his chairman which hand-picked the successors for an interminable number of years, and have finally brought them to their knees.

Escaping from the sea of despair that is the Second Division requires the superhuman effort, as Leeds United and Newcastle United know. The fact that John Benson, the manager, has available financial resources not dissimilar to those of Crewe Alexandra does not augur well.

Neither, it would seem, can he rely upon his players. The pain-killing injection in Stein's broken foot must also have desensitized the nerves in his whole body, judging by the way he coolly booted the ball over from near the corner flag. Williams pained the ball away, with Bond waiting behind to clear, and it ran free to Anic. The substitute drove in a low volley of no great power through a tangle of bodies.

Luton survived up to the whistle with less aggression than they encountered after it. Elliott, whose long, spidery legs were often Luton's last wall of defence, was knocked to the ground by a defender and had to be escorted to the tunnel by Aylton, his first raised in a gesture of defiance.

Best to remember the good things that did not go down in the City's agony. As Benson generously said of Platt: "It's nice to see that the good guys do succeed sometimes." And he added, with powerful poignancy that others would do well to note: "I think he cares more about football than his own job."

Luton had no need, either, to be reminded of anniversaries. Eight years ago, they also played their last match against Manchester City, and the home draw banished them to the Second Division. With every minute that ticked by on Saturday, it seemed another draw would seal their fate.

Luton's instinctive desire to attack finally rescued their future. The pain-killing injection in Stein's broken foot must also have desensitized the nerves in his whole body, judging by the way he coolly booted the ball over from near the corner flag. Williams pained the ball away, with Bond waiting behind to clear, and it ran free to Anic. The substitute drove in a low volley of no great power through a tangle of bodies.

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# England on course for semi-finals

By Nicholas Harding

England confirmed their promising start to the European Youth Championships with a 4-2 win over the holders, Scotland at Birmingham yesterday which was their second victory in Group Three.

Scotland, defeated in their last unbeaten record, were four goals down before they scored twice in a minute through their substitute, Robertson, who the previous day had helped Hungary to a narrow win back to the Scottish premier division.

England did not seem to miss the suspended Simmonds for it was his replacement, Peates, the Scots forward, who scored the first two goals in the 13th and 35th minutes with a shot and a header. Simmonds, crashed in the fifty-third minute third goal after racing past two tackles and it was not until the shot from the Walsall full back that Rideout added the fourth from a rebound off Bruce, the Scottish goalkeeper. Robertson's joy soon turned to grief as he was ordered off after the final whistle following a collision with Gibson.

He has a head injury and is almost certain to miss tomorrow's match against Russia at Villa Park. England require a point to reach the semi-finals, where their most likely opponents are Czechoslovakia, who contested a dull goalless draw with Bulgaria at Oldham.

In another game devoid of goals, the Republic of Ireland did rather better than hold on for the last 69 minutes after having led Scotland off against Finland at Barnsley after an off-the-ball incident involving Peates: indeed the Irish were unlucky not to score on at least two occasions, Coughlin and Mooney hitting the woodwork. Finland had only one shot on target throughout the game. The Republic must now beat France tomorrow to qualify from Group Four, the in-form French having recorded their second victory with a 3-1 defeat of Belgium.

**RESULTS:** Group one: Czechoslovakia 0, Bulgaria 0 (Oldham); West Germany 1, Sweden 0 (Oldham). Group two: Yugoslavia 0, Italy 2 (Crystal Palace); Romania 0, Turkey 0 (Reading). Group three: England 4, Scotland 2 (Birmingham); Spain 1, Soviet Union 0 (Birmingham). Group four: Finland 0, Republic of Ireland 0 (Barnsley); France 3, Belgium 1 (Nottingham Forest).

# The people who put pain in champagne

By David Powell

**Leicester City**.....0  
**Burnley**.....0

Here is a new one for football's team book: when a promoted team is not promoted? Leicester City have the answer, though they live in hope that the question will be amended to read: how can a team be promoted twice in one season?

The question of the final whistle at Filbert Street, the hoisting of players shoulder high, the chanting and festive dancing presented the classic picture of a team that has been promoted to the first division. Only as the supporters dispersed did they discover they had jumped the gun.

Malcolm Macdonald's protest at Derby lowered the band-and-wine banner which may yet be needed for one last trip to the Baseball Ground.

Seldom has champagne gone flat so quickly. "This rubs out our champagne," said Burnley manager, said. After finishing the season with a run of 15 unbeaten matches he must hope for no replay between Derby and Burnley. The fact that Leicester and Burnley do not win and steal the last promotion place.

Milne offered one chilling statement which will do nothing to cure insomnia in Leicester before the Football League announce their reaction to events in Derby: "If the referee has abandoned the game it should be replayed."

The appointment of the former Coventry centre-forward, Bobby Gould, will cost the club a further £25,000 in compensation to Bristol Rovers, with whom he had another 18 months of his contract to run.

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The confusion would surely have been avoided had Leicester been playing. The division's leading scorer, naming a knee injury, watched from the touchline as his Leicester colleagues squandered numerous chances when only one goal was needed to put the promotion issue beyond doubt.

Burnley's position is clear. Hardly out of the relegation frame all season, they need only to win their last game at Crystal Palace tomorrow to stay up. Derby, at Palace will send them down instead and Burnley will be optimistic after two victories and a draw in the three matches between the clubs this season.

Frank Casper's men have shown their liking for the big occasion games, beating Tottenham and Liverpool, among other first division sides, and Palace in cup matches this season. Besides, as we have been hearing for months, Burnley have too much talent for the third division.

Donovan emphasised that point with a model performance in central defence at Leicester and victory in London would be a fitting finale to the longest, most profitable and exciting season in Burnley's 100-year history.

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## Law Report May 16, 1983

## Move to strike out Chancery Division proceedings fails

**Tozer v National Greyhound Racing Club Ltd**  
**Before Mr Justice Walton**  
 [Judgment delivered May 10]

His Lordship dismissed motions in the Chancery Division by the defendants, National Greyhound Racing Club Ltd, seeking to have proceedings brought against them by plaintiffs in two proceedings, Mr William Ronald Tozer and Mr Cecil Law, struck out on the ground that the proceedings ought to have been brought by way of judicial review, under Order 53 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, and not by way of proceedings in the Chancery Division for declarations and injunctions.

The plaintiffs' motions, seeking an interlocutory relief of the restoration of their licences to train greyhounds, were granted pending a speedy trial of the actions.

Mr Justice Walton, sitting with Mr Anthony Scriven, QC and Mr Margaret Smith, QC and Mr Roger Henderson, QC and Mr Adrian Brunner for the defendants in the Tozer action; Mr J. Grove Hull for the defendants in the Law action.

MR JUSTICE WALTON said that each of the two summonses before him sought a declaration and other relief, arising out of decisions made by stewards of the defendants, purportedly in exercise of disciplinary jurisdiction on December 15, 1982, and December 9, 1982, respectively.

In each case the penalty imposed on the respective plaintiff was suspension of his licence as a trainer of greyhounds. In each case there were two motions, one by the plaintiff seeking interlocutory relief, and one by the defendants asking that the proceedings be struck out for want of jurisdiction.

The defendants were an ordinary company, incorporated under the Companies Act 1948 to 1976, as a company limited by guarantee, its objects including the discipline and control of greyhound racing in England, Wales and Scotland.

The defendants had promulgated rules of racing under which by rule 2 "every person who is the holder of a licence shall be deemed to have read and understood the rules of the NGRG and to submit himself to such rules and to the jurisdiction of the NGRG".

The rules further provided that a trainer must obtain a licence; that a greyhound should not run unless it was in the charge of a licensed trainer; that a greyhound should be deemed to be in the charge of a licensed trainer only while under his or her control, or the control of a licensed kennelholder in respect of that trainer's kennels, or the racecourse where the greyhound was running and under the instructions of the trainer or of a licensed official.

By rule 152 a person was to be deemed to have committed a breach of the rules if the board's stewards in the exercise of their discretion found that that person had been wholly or partly responsible for taking any action expressly or impliedly forbidden by the rules or for failing to take any action which, under the rules, he/she was expressly or impliedly required to take in any inquiry the stewards should, except where otherwise provided, adopt such procedure as they might in their absolute discretion consider appropriate.

By rule 174 provided that the stewards should have power to make their orders without assigning any reason for so ordering, if they were satisfied under rule 174 (a) (i) *inter alia*, that the person concerned had "in his charge a greyhound which on examination... showed presence in its tissues (etc)... of any substance which by its nature could affect the performance of a greyhound".

By rule 178 a person warned off by the NGRG was disqualified and should be excluded from any racecourse, and by rule 181 a person who was suspended or whose licence was withdrawn should not be employed in any licensed capacity or otherwise in connection with NGRG greyhound racing at any premises licensed by the NGRG without prior approval of the stewards.

The defendants controlled most but not all the greyhound racing taking place in this country, and whatever other sources of livelihood might be open to the plaintiffs the defendants' decisions effectively deprived them, albeit temporarily, of their chosen vocation.

A claim made by Mr Henderson, for Mr Tozer, and supported by Mr Hull, for Mr Law, that the defendants were a public body, because they claimed jurisdiction over any person and not merely over those persons referred to in rule 2, found to have committed a breach of the rules, was wholly unsustainable. The defendants had no rights or duties in relation to any member of the public, as such.

Rule 174 (a) (i) *inter alia* provided that the stewards should have power to make their orders without assigning any reason for so ordering, if they were satisfied under rule 174 (a) (i) *inter alia*, that the person concerned had "in his charge a greyhound which on examination... showed presence in its tissues (etc)... of any substance which by its nature could affect the performance of a greyhound".

To deprive a trainer of his livelihood required careful justification, and his Lordship could find nothing in the evidence to provide such justification.

## Employer's duty to warn

**Burgess v Thorn Consumer Electronics (Newhaven) Ltd**  
 An employer who had received guidance notes from the Department of Employment and the Health and Safety Executive which referred to the risk of assembly line workers contracting leprosy was under a duty to warn his employees of the risk of contracting the disease.

His Lordship said that the company should have warned the plaintiff of the risk of her contracting the disease.

If the condition had been caught early enough, an operation would have been needed and she would have suffered no permanent damage.

His Lordship awarded £3,500 for pain, suffering and loss of amenity and £7,500 for loss of earnings.

## Damages cut by 20% for no seat belt

**Salmon v Newland and Others**  
**Before Mr Justice Michael Davies**  
 [Judgment delivered May 11]

When a plaintiff injured in a road accident had been contributorily negligent in failing to wear a seat belt, and the court was satisfied that he, injuries would have been substantially less serious if a seat belt had been worn, it was open to the court to reduce her damages by more than the 15 per cent suggested in *Froom v Butcher* (1976) QB 286.

Moreover, the cost of a convalescent holiday following an operation made necessary by injuries sustained in the accident would be recoverable in damages.

Mr Justice Michael Davies so held in the Queen's Bench Division giving judgment for the plaintiff, Ann Salmon, against the second defendant, Kim Yvonne Haining, in an action for damages for personal injury sustained by the plaintiff in a road accident in October 1978.

The plaintiff had been a passenger in her husband's car when it had collided head-on with a car driven by the second defendant.

She had suffered a perforating injury to the right eye resulting in total loss of useful vision in that eye, multiple facial injuries resulting in scarring, and a continuing severe anxiety state.

She was unable to cope with her pre-accident job and had to resign.

At an earlier trial, primary liability had been established against the second defendant only.

Mr Stuart McKinnon QC and Mr John M. Gray, QC for the plaintiff; Mr John Gray, QC and Mr William Blair for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE MICHAEL DAVIES said that he considered that the plaintiff had been contributorily negligent in failing to wear a seat belt and, although there was no medical evidence on the point, that her injuries would have been a good deal less serious if she had been wearing a seat belt.

In *Froom v Butcher* Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, had suggested that the appropriate reduction in such cases would be 15 per cent.

His Lordship did not think that that figure was high enough on the facts of this case; the appropriate reduction was 20 per cent.

The plaintiff had had two painful and unsuccessful operations on her eye, which had caused severe disappointment in addition to the anxiety state from which she had suffered since the accident.

In those circumstances it was perfectly reasonable that she should take a convalescent holiday; without it her general condition might have been less good.

Accordingly, the cost of the holiday was recoverable in damages.

His Lordship awarded £18,500 for pain, suffering and loss of amenity, £34,000 for loss of future earnings and £11,414 special damages, each subject to a 20 per cent reduction for contributory negligence.

Solicitors: Barry Lewis, Guildford; Parker, Son & Nickson, High Wycombe.

## Considering area planning policy

**Richmond upon Thames London Borough Council v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another**  
**Before Mr Justice Gidwell**  
 [Judgment delivered May 9]

An inspector appointed on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Environment to hear an appeal against the refusal of planning permission by a local authority in law in failing to take into account the provisions of an area development plan made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, and in giving preference to a report prepared by the Property Advisory Group to the secretary of state on the subject of planning gain.

Mr Justice Gidwell so held in the Queen's Bench Division in granting a declaration in the above terms while refusing an application to quash the decision of an inspector appointed by the secretary of state under section 235 of the 1971 Act, allowing an appeal by Hutchinson, Cooke and Monk, an arm, against a decision of Richmond upon Thames London Borough Council who refused planning permission to build an extension to one of the firm's office blocks.

Mr John Howell for the council; Mr Simon D. Brown for the secretary of state.

MR JUSTICE GIDWELL said that policy 29 of the Richmond Town Action Area Plan, which formed part of the development plan for Richmond, stated that office developments should provide planning advantage, of which several examples were set out.

The report of the Property Advisory Group to the secretary of state examined the nature of planning gain, and concluded that the practice of bargaining for planning gain was an unacceptable one.

The inspector, who was appointed to the secretary of state to hear the appeal against the refusal of planning permission by the council for a proposed extension to an office building, appeared to conclude that the report obviated the requirement of sections 29 and 35 of the Act for regard to be had to the area development plan.

In this case that involved taking into consideration the requirement of planning advantage as set out in policy 29 of the Richmond Town Action Area Plan was complied with.

The failure to consider the policy amounted to an error of law, and a declaration would be granted accordingly.

The substantive decision however was correct, so that in the exercise of his discretion his Lordship would refuse the application to quash the inspector's decision.

Solicitors: Mr G. S. McGowan, Twickenham; Treasury Solicitor.

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## HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY

## "NEW BLOOD" AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LECTURESHIPS

Applications are invited for the following lectureships funded under the U.K. "New Blood" and Information Technology schemes. Applicants for the former should normally be under 35 years of age. The posts are vacant from 1st October, 1983.

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS**  
The Department of Physics has major research projects in the field of electrical engineering and computer science. It is seeking to recruit a Lecturer in the field of electrical engineering and computer science. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in the teaching of physics in the Department and also in the general teaching of the Department which includes the teaching of physics, chemistry, and other sciences.

**"NEW BLOOD" - Lectureship in Electronics and Instrumentation (Ref. 22/83)**  
The successful candidate will have overall responsibility for electronics in the Department and will also have a leading role in the development of the Department's research programme in electronics. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in the teaching of physics in the Department and also in the general teaching of the Department which includes the teaching of physics, chemistry, and other sciences.

**"INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY" - Lectureship in Optoelectronics (Ref. 23/83)**  
The Lecturer will lead the experimental programme in the major Nonlinear Optics and Optoelectronics research project. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in the teaching of physics in the Department and also in the general teaching of the Department which includes the teaching of physics, chemistry, and other sciences.

For both these posts letters of intent should be sent to the Department of Physics, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton, Edinburgh EH14 4AS.

**DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING (Ref. 34/83)**  
Applications are invited from graduates with a good honours degree in Electrical Engineering or Computer Science for a Lectureship in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in the teaching of physics in the Department and also in the general teaching of the Department which includes the teaching of physics, chemistry, and other sciences.

Further particulars (quoting reference 17/83) are available from the Academic Staff Office, McCulloch Building, 16 Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XQ.

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HORIZONS  
The Times guide to career choice

## Escaping the academic trap

By their final year, many students in higher education feel trapped by their academic discipline. Some are concerned that their job choice will be limited because of the specialist nature of their subject. Many more, reading subjects which no longer particularly interest them, fear they may be trapped into a course-related career from which they will derive little if any personal satisfaction.

This fear is widespread. One study of university students in their final year found that 80 per cent wished they were reading a different degree subject. This is understandable. From the age of 13 or 14 we are making choices - first O and then A level subjects and then our higher education course - choices which progressively narrow our options.

In many countries, where most courses in higher education are vocationally oriented, employers expect candidates to have directly relevant qualifications for each specific type of work. Thus, the disciplinary trap is very real. British higher education, degree courses in particular, is more academically oriented - subsequent vocational training being given by employers. Therefore most jobs, apart from medicine, veterinary science or those with a high scientific or technological

Words of comfort from Philip Schofield to those with second thoughts

content, are open to those of almost any discipline. Employers are primarily interested in the level of qualification (e.g. a degree) rather than the subject of the qualification.

Although some types of work, mainly in scientific and technical fields, are open only to those with relevant academic subjects, the majority of vacancies are open to those of any discipline. Those who wish to escape from their course subjects can usually do so quite easily.

For instance, in recent months I have interviewed graduates in law, microbiology, philosophy, theoretical physics and politics all working in marketing, geology, history, and engineering graduates in chartered accountancy, and chemistry, economics and modern languages graduates in personnel. On first entering employment, each had undergone a substantial programme of formal training and planned work experience. For their employers, the real value of their academic studies is their acquisition of the intellectual skills of organizing, evaluating and communicating complex information and their degree a measure of their potential to acquire vocational skills.

On the other hand, those who have

taken more vocationally oriented degree courses - especially medicine, veterinary science and B.Ed degrees - will find these are not so widely acceptable outside the relevant professions. Similarly, most diploma and certificate courses are not highly regarded outside their own specialist field. There is a greater risk of being trapped by a vocational course than there is in an academic course.

There are regular demands that British education should become more vocationally oriented. This would certainly relieve employers of much of the very high cost of training. However, such a change could have two serious consequences. First, most of those entering higher education would eventually become trapped by their discipline and many would end up in occupations which do not motivate or interest them. Secondly, it has proved impossible in any country to anticipate and match the supply and demand for specific disciplines - thus we have surpluses of some and shortages of others. If we reduce the existing high level of transferability from academic to occupational disciplines, we lose a vital flexibility.

Because employers are at present more interested in level of our studies than their content, we are rarely trapped by our subject and have a wide variety of career options.

## The credit side of banking

Edward Fennell reports on a scheme to launch the high fliers

Barclays reckon that this will not only give them the edge over the other high street banks but will also put them on even terms with the merchant banks in competing for the best business.

With so much competition the less popular high street banks are having to work doubly hard to secure their share of the elite. According to Mr A.J. Fitness, careers adviser at the City University, there is a well established pecking order, with the merchant banks at the top, the international banks second and the clearing banks at the bottom. The clearing banks themselves admit that they have a lacklustre image. "A lot of graduates think that clearing banks mean being in a cage in Wigan, so it doesn't help that they might apply to us," said the graduate recruitment manager of one of the big four.

To strengthen their position in the graduate recruitment market, Barclays last year introduced a new management training scheme which incorporates a two-year masters

mind the ex-public school and Oxbridge candidates who still make up the bulk of the merchant banks' recruits. There is a strong feeling among graduate and careers advisers alike that without this traditional blue-chip background there is little chance of getting into the most prestigious banks. Consequently the international students who go to Essex University - particularly American - banks who are reckoned to be more open-minded about whom they will accept.

"You don't need the right connection or family background to get into an American bank," said Mr Fitness. "You just need to be a very, very good candidate." The other alternative is to qualify as an accountant or a lawyer or to work for a stockbroker, and then join a bank.

Interestingly, the success of the American banks in scooping up the most able is also causing problems for Civil Service recruiters in their search for administrative trainees. They are glamorous and offer the chance of foreign travel, particularly to the States," said Mr Fitness. "No wonder they are popular."

In seeking out the very best candidates, Barclays may have in

The University of Birmingham  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY  
RESEARCH FELLOW - DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE  
CANCER CLINICAL TRIALS UNIT

Applications are invited for the post of Research Fellow in the Department of Medicine, Cancer Clinical Trials Unit. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in the teaching of medicine in the Department and also in the general teaching of the Department which includes the teaching of medicine, chemistry, and other sciences.

Further particulars (quoting reference 17/83) are available from the Academic Staff Office, McCulloch Building, 16 Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XQ.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS  
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Applications are invited for the post of Deputy Registrar or Secretary, acting on the appointment of Dr C. J. Chubb as Registrar of the University of Leeds. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in the teaching of law in the Department and also in the general teaching of the Department which includes the teaching of law, chemistry, and other sciences.

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## University Appointments

UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE  
READERSHIP IN STATISTICS

Applications are invited for a Readership in Statistics within the Department of Mathematics. Applicants should have a first degree in statistics or a related subject. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in the teaching of statistics in the Department and also in the general teaching of the Department which includes the teaching of statistics, chemistry, and other sciences.

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UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW  
Temporary Lectureship in Mathematics











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